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Message from the Governor of New York Transmitting a Report on International Exchanges. 1849

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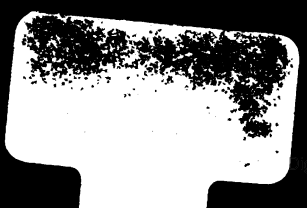

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State of New-York.

No. 201.

IN ASSEMBLY, MAR. 30, 1849.

MESSAGE

From the Governor, transmitting a report on the subject of International Exchanges, by Mons. Alex. Vattemare.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Albany, March 30, 1849.

To the Legislature,

Mons. Vattemare, as agent for International Exchange of Literary and Scientific works, has presented to me a report accompanied by an interesting letter from his agent in Paris, on the progress of the work during the eventful year, 1848.

I transmit herewith these communications, that of Mons. Vattemare's agent in Paris being both in the original and in English.

The interest which the people of our State have manifested in the success of this liberal and enlightened system, will be fully sustained by the evidence which the papers, herewith communicated, present of the result which it has accomplished.

In the midst of the fierce commotions and conflicts which deluged Paris with blood, and worked a revolution in the government of France, the peaceful and benign operations of this system of exchange were not interrupted. The influence of this silent but effi-

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cient agency rose above the excitement and violence which overthrew a kingdom, and quietly pursued it liberalizing and beneficent designs.

To Mons. Vattemare belongs the high praise of having conceived and brought to successful operation a system which engages the nations of the world in acts of comity, of sympathy and good will; looking to the advancement of science and literature as a common object, and which aims to unite the various and remote parts of the earth into one republic of letters.

The Legislature have heretofore shown its appreciation of the value of Mons. Vattemare's scheme. I commend to your favorable and attentive consideration the accompanying documents, with the hope that you may find in them a sufficient incentive to the further continuance of the aid which the State has heretofore extended to this object.

HAMILTON FISH.

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REPORT

On the subject of International Exchange, by Alexandre Vattemare.

ALBANY, *March 28th*, 1849.

To his Excellency, Hamilton Fish,
Governor of the State of New-York:

SIR: I have the honor to submit my first Report as the Agent for International Exchange for this State.

In this report will be considered—

I. The action of the Federal Government of the United States in relation to Exchanges.

II. The action of the State Legislatures upon the same subject.

III. A development of the plan, showing the mode in which the operations of Exchange are to be conducted; its expenses; the sources upon which it relies for revenue; the advantages to trade to be expected from its full realization; and, lastly, the moral bearing of the subject.

These subjects will be treated as briefly as their clear exposition will permit; and I earnestly invoke for them, in advance, your candid and favorable consideration.

I. Upon my first visit to America, in the year 1840, I submitted to the Congress of the United States, a memorial, laying before that honorable body the outline of my system of International Exchange, and praying that its consideration might be referred to an appropriate committee in order that such measures might be taken for its establishment as the committee, in its wisdom, should deem expedient. This memorial was presented on the 5th of February, 1840. It was referred to the joint committee on the library, which brought in a favorable report, and the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted by both Houses:

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"1. *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the librarian, under the superintendence of the committee on the library, be [authorised] to exchange such duplicates as may be in the library, for other books or works.

"2. That he [be authorised] in the same way to exchange documents.

"3. That hereafter fifty additional copies of each volume of documents, printed by order of either House, be printed and bound for the purpose of exchange in foreign countries."

Encouraged by this liberal action on the part of Congress, I returned to France, in the expectation that the most flattering tokens of the appreciation by the American nation of the kindly feelings of the French would follow me, and afford substantial aid in my new labors in consolidating my system on the other side of the Atlantic. But owing to the employment of the word "authorised," instead of "directed," in the resolutions, nothing was accomplished; and, after an absence of eight years, which were devoted to the collection of objects of exchange in Europe, to be distributed in America, I returned to the United States, to secure, on a broader and more permanent basis, the establishment of the system.

I either transmitted, during my absence, or brought with me on my return, a vast collection of legislative documents, scientific works, objects of art, &c., all of which were presented as tokens of esteem, good will, and brotherly feeling, by the French Executive, the Chambers of Peers and Deputies, by their excellencies the Ministers of Justice, War, Navy, Interior, Commerce and Agriculture, Public Instruction, Finances, and Public Works; by the City Council of the city of Paris; by the Academy of Sciences, the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, and by the Museum of Natural History, as well as by the most distinguished statesmen, authors, artists, mechanicians, and private individuals of France, to the Congress; the Supreme Court of the United States; to the Departments of War, Navy, and Treasury; and to the States of Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New-York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Ohio, Louisiana, Indiana, Michigan, Kentucky, and Texas; also to the United States Military Academy at West Point; to the cities of New-York, Boston, Philadelphia, and

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Baltimore; and to the Universities of Cambridge, Brown's, Brunswick, and Waterville; to the Colleges of Burlington, &c.; and, finally, to the National Institute of the United States.

Bearing with me, thus, these rich fruits of the intellectual labors of the best minds of the old world, so valuable to the new, and so substantial an evidence of the willingness of the government and people of my own country to enter into an intellectual union with their brethren of America, I entertained the most sanguine expectations of success in the great undertaking to which I have devoted myself; and allow me to say, in advance, that those expectations have not been disappointed. The enlightened liberality of the statesmen and people of America, has recognised at once the great value of the plan, and has prompted a generous and hearty reciprocation.

On the 9th of February, 1848, I laid before Congress a second memorial, giving an account of the success of my labors during my absence; presenting the proofs of the favorable disposition of the governments, and leading minds of Europe towards the plan; assigning the reasons why their own resolutions, passed eight years before, had not been carried into effect; and praying—

"1st. That the law securing patent rights and copy rights may be so amended as to require all authors or publishers, taking out copy rights for works to be printed, to place in the depot of the central agency at New-York, subject to the order of government, copies of such work, in addition to the two copies now required to be deposited in the library of Congress.

"2d. The enactment of a law, (accompanied by all necessary guards for the prevention of fraud,) admitting duty free, all works and other objects addressed by governments abroad, through the general depot of exchange in Paris to the branch depot in New-York, exclusively for the purpose of International Exchange.

"3d. That the resolutions heretofore passed by both Houses of Congress, in July, 1840, in the words following, (and which have hitherto remained a dead letter on the statute book,) be carried into full effect, viz:

"1. *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the librarian,

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under the superintendence of the committee on the library, be [authorized] to exchange such duplicates as may be in the library for other books or works.

"2. That he [be authorized] in the same way to exchange documents.

"3. That hereafter fifty additional copies of each volume of documents, printed by order of either House, be printed and bound for the purpose of exchange in foreign countries."

"To effect this, it will be requisite to repass a similar resolution, substituting the words, "and is hereby directed and required," for the word "authorized," and also, by assigning a place of deposite for, or otherwise disposing of, the fifty copies ordered to be furnished for exchange.

"4th. That the above regulations be understood as applying exclusively to works of a scientific character, and promotive of intellectual improvement; works of a different description being allowed to seek the usual channels opened by those engaged in the book trade.

"5th. That duplicates of the objects of curiosity and scientific interest, brought home by the late exploring expedition, (so honorable to the intelligence and liberality of your government and country,) be directed to be assigned, by those having official control of the objects so collected, for the purpose of being exchanged, on authorized demand for them, for objects of a similar kind furnished by European governments or learned bodies."

On the 4th of May, 1848, the Hon. Mr. Murphy, from the joint committee on the library of Congress, brought in a report highly favorable to the petition of the memorial, and which closes with the following recommendation:

"In the views of the memorialist generally, the committee are happy to concur. After the success which has thus far crowned his unwearied and voluntary labors, they think his expectations of aid from us have been justly formed, and should be promptly satisfied. They therefore recommend that the committee be authorized to establish such agencies, and organize such a plan of donation and exchange

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as they may deem best for this purpose; that all books sent to the Federal or State governments, to any departments, or libraries of either, to the academy at West Point, or to the National Institute, be admitted duty free; and that the sum of two thousand dollars be appropriated to enable the committee to carry the measure into effect."

A bill in harmony with these recommendations was reported, and on the 26th of June became a law:

"AN ACT to regulate the exchange of certain documents and other publications of Congress.

"*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the joint committee on the library shall appoint such agents as they may, from time to time, deem requisite, to carry into effect the donation and exchange of such documents and other publications as have been or shall be placed at their disposal for the purpose.

"SEC. 2 *And be it further enacted*, That all books transmitted through such agents for the use of the government of the United States, or of any government of a State or of its Legislature, or of any department of the government of the United States, or of a State, or of the Academy at West Point, or of the National Institute, shall be admitted into the United States *duty free*.

"SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of two thousand dollars is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, and the same is put at the disposal of the library committee, for the purpose of carrying into effect such donation and exchange, and paying the expenses already incurred in relation thereto.

"Approved, June 26, 1848."

In accordance with the first provision of this act, I was appointed the agent of the United States for International Exchange by the following resolutions:

"JOINT LIBRARY COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS,
"*July* 25, 1848.

"*Resolved*, That Alexandre Vattemare be appointed agent to the joint committee on the library to carry into effect the donation and exchange of such books and other publications as are or shall be

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placed at the disposal of the committee for this purpose, under the "Act to regulate the exchange of certain documents and other publications of Congress;" said agent to be, in all respects, subject to the directions of the committe.

"*Resolved*, That said Vattemare's agency shall extend only to exchanges between the United States and foreign countries or governments, and not to domestic exchanges.

"*Resolved*, That the chairman draw from the treasury and place in the hands of the said Alexandre Vattemare, fifteen hundred dollars, part of the sum appropriated by the said act, to be applied to his personal expenses already incurred during the year ending 30th June, 1849, and to defraying the expenses of clerk hire, freight, rent of rooms, and other necessary expenditures of his agency; and that said agent shall annually account to and with the committee concerning the expenditure of said sum.

"*Resolved*, That said Vattemare be furnished, for the purpose of exchange, with the following works:'

[Here follows a list of the works presented.]

One of the most important features of the law above quoted is that which provides for the reception of all objects of exchange duty free. The heavy duties hitherto imposed have formed an important drawback upon the operations of exchange. To carry out this provision, and to prevent its being made the occasion of frauds upon the revenue, the Secretary of the Treasury has issued the following circular:

CIRCULAR

"*Instructions to collectors and other officers of the customs.*"

"TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *August* 14, 1848.

"Congress having, by the act entitled 'An act to regulate the exchanges of certain documents and other publications of Congress,' approved 26th June, 1848, adopted the system of international exchanges, thereby manifesting a due appreciation of its importance and value, the duty devolves upon the department to aid in carrying out the intentions of Congress, by the establishment of such needful regulations as will, whilst facilitating this great enterprise, protect the system itself from abuse, as well as the revenue from any attempted frauds and impositions.

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"It will be perceived that this act exempts from duty 'all books' transmitted through the agents appointed by the joint committee on the library, 'for the use of the Government of the United States, or of any government of a State, or of its Legislature, or of any department of the government of the United States, or of a State, or of the Academy at West Point, or of the National Institute.'

"The joint library committee of Congress, under date of the 25th July, 1848, in pursuance of the authority vested in them by the before-mentioned act, adopted, amongst others, the following resolutions, viz:

"*Resolved*, That Alexandre Vattemare be appointed agent to the joint committee on the library to carry into effect the donation and exchange of such books and other publications as are or shall be placed at the disposal of the committee for this purpose, under the 'Act to regulate the exchange of certain documents and other publications of Congress;' said agent to be, in all respects, subject to the direction of the committee.

"*Resolved*, That the said Vattemare's agency shall extend only to exchanges between the United States and foreign countries and governments, and not to domestic exchanges.

"By the foregoing resolutions it will be perceived that the agency to conduct these exchanges has been conferred upon Mr. Alexandre Vattemare, the author of the system, to whose talents, zeal, and indefatigable exertions, the civilized world is indebted for the conception and consummation of the system, destined, it is confidently believed, to realize all the benefits anticipated by its distinguished author and promoter.

"According to the suggestion of Mr. Vattemare, the central agency of this exterprise will be established at Paris, with subordinate agencies in the capitals of other States or countries uniting in the system. To prevent fraud and imposition, all documents and other publications transmitted to the United States must bear the stamp of the central agency at Paris, to be impressed, in the case of books or pamphlets, on the *first* and *last* pages of the text of each volume; in the case of charts, maps, prints, &c., the stamp to be on some convenient place on the face thereof. The boxes or packages will be addressed to the care of the collector of the customs of the port in the

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United States to which they may be shipped, accompanied by a letter of advice and a descriptive list. On their arrival the collector is enjoined to take careful charge of the same, notifying the department of their receipt, and await instructions for their disposal.

"R. J. WALKER, *Secretary of the Treasury.*"

In addition to the law above given, which recognises the system, and provides for its support, Congress passed a number of joint resolutions, which are given below, setting apart for purposes of exchange a large number of important works:

"*Acts and resolutions of Congress in relation to international exchanges.*

"IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
"*April* 27, 1848.

"*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate be authorized and directed to purchase one hundred copies of Hickey's edition of the Constitution of the United States, and to deliver the same, in the name of the Senate of the United States, to Mr. Alexandre Vattemare, of Paris, to be distributed by him in France according to his system of national exchange of books.

Attest:

ASBURY DICKINS, *Secretary.*"

"*Resolution authorizing the presentation to the government of France of a series of the standard weights and measures of the United States, and for other purposes.*

"*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Secretary of State be directed to furnish to Alexandre Vattemare one complete series of the standard weights and measures of the United States, now in the department of State, to be presented to the government of France, and that he furnish to the joint committee on the library twenty-five copies of Little & Brown's edition of the Laws of the United States, to be disposed of by them for purposes of international exchange.

"SEC. 2. *And be it further resolved*, That seven copies of the *Exploring Expedition* now published, and an equal number of such of the works of the same as may hereafter be published, be placed at

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the disposal of the joint library committee of Congress, for the purpose of international exchange.

"Approved June 30, 1848."

The large amount of correspondence necessary to the proper conduct of the system renders the postage a tax of considerable weight. The Senate, in order to give every facility to its operations, passed the resolutions which follows, granting the privilege of free transmission to all letters and papers relating to exchange. This resolution was lost in the House, in the last hours of the session, by a few votes:

"*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That Alexandre Vattemare, agent of the United States for international exchanges, be, and he is hereby, authorized to frank letters or packages containing books, public documents, maps, specimens of the arts, or medals, sent to him from any foreign country to the United States, or from the United States to any foreign country; and, also, to receive letters and packages appertaining to international exchanges free of postage: this privilege to extend to the mail lines of the United States to foreign countries: *Provided*," &c., &c.

It is hoped that the importance of this measure, will be so apparent upon the farther operation of the system as to secure its adoption by a future Congress.

An arrangement has been made with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives, as well as with the various departments of the Federal Government, by which a regular interchange of all official documents published by them shall be made, as fast as these documents are issued, for documents of the French government. These documents will be transmitted by each steamer, and thus each of the two governments will be put in immediate possession of all the public proceedings of the other; a measure which cannot fail to produce the happiest results upon the legislation of both. In his letter complying with my request that this arrangement might be made with regard to the proceedings of the Senate, the Secretary, the Hon. Asbury Dickens, makes the following remarks:

"The judgment of the civilized world has sanctioned your scheme of international exchanges. Of that comprehensive work one of the most important branches is the prompt communication, among en-

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lightened nations, of the proceedings of their several Legislatures, and the documents connected with them. Each is thus enabled to profit early by the wisdom and experience of all.

"Between the two great republics of the Old and the New World, more especially, should this mutual aid be active and complete. The measure in which you ask my co-operation is well calculated to make it so."

Liberal as has thus been the spirit in which the federal Congress has received and acted upon the proposal for the establishment of an intellectual union between the old and new worlds, the various departments of the government were in no respect behind them. All seemed to share in a generous rivalry of good feeling and substantial encouragement for the cause of universal peace. The following brief summary will give some idea of the action taken by the various departments of the General Government, in relation to the system of exchanges:

The DEPARTMENT of STATE has contributed a collection of valuable books, among which may be mentioned a complete collection of Niles' Register, and an immense number of volumes of the local laws of the various States of the Union, &c., &c.

The DEPARTMENT of the TREASURY has added largely to the materiel of exchange by contributions of books, documents, circulars, &c., &c. Among these may be more particularly noticed complete collections of the documents on the commerce and navigation of the United States, many hundred circulars, collections of tariff laws, and, in short, every thing relating to the business of the department. In addition to these valuable contributions of books, the Secretary of the Treasury has rendered immense service to the system by the liberal manner in which he has interpreted and acted upon the law of Congress, in the circular which has been already quoted. Besides this circular, which will so greatly facilitate the business transactions of the system, he has issued a second one, scarcely less important as a measure of convenience and economy; for the storage and forwarding of so great a number of large and heavy cases as must be constantly circulating in the channels of exchange, must form an item in the expenses of the system of no inconsiderable importance.

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"TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *October* 23, 1848.

"SIR: Referring you to the circular instructions from this department of the 14th August last, in relation to the system of international exchanges proposed by Mr. Alexandre Vattemare, and adopted by the act of Congress 'to regulate the exchange of certain documents and other publications of Congress,' approved the 26th June, 1848, I have now to advise you that the port of New-York has been selected as the depot from which the articles in exchange will be transmitted from the United States to France.

"You are accordingly authorized and directed to cause to be carefully kept in the *Atlantic dock stores* of your port, all such packages of books, &c., as may be sent under the agency of Mr. Vattemare from any part of the United States destined for France, in exchange, until forwarded by Mr. Vattemare to their destination.

"Very respectfully your obedient servant,

"R. J. WALKER.

"C. W. LAWRENCE, Esq., *Collector of Customs, New-York.*"

The DEPARTMENT of WAR, (under which is included the Military Academy of West Point,) has given more than 500 volumes of valuable military works.

The DEPARTMENT of the NAVY has made presentations of the greatest importance and value. Besides a large collection of books, maps, charts, and drawings, it has added models of the vessels of every class, and of boats, specimens of arms and a collection of all the varieties of wood employed in the construction of government vessels.

The DEPARTMENT of the POST OFFICE has presented collections of its reports and circulars, and numerous maps of the post roads of the United States.

The PATENT OFFICE has contributed more than 500 volumes of reports and other works, together with drawings and specifications of a large number of the most important inventions patented during the past year.

The OFFICE of the COAST SURVEY has given six complete collections of the maps thus far made under its direction.

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The preparation of the weights and measures, voted by Congress, has also been made under the control of this office.

The OBSERVATORY has furnished numerous maps and charts, and works on meteorology, astronomy, and navigation.

The NATIONAL INSTITUTE has contributed a collection of scientific works.

The CITY of WASHINGTON has presented a very handsome collection of books, the gifts of the citizens of Washington to the city of Paris. The catalogue of these works is contained in a handsome pamphlet, printed at the expense of the city, and which also give a full report of the proceedings of a public meeting of the citizens, called by the Mayor, for the purpose of expressing the good will of the Federal Metropolis towards her sister city—the intellectual centre of the Old World. The books have been handsomely bound and inscribed, and form a gift truly worthy of the Capital of the American Nation.

From the foregoing statement, purposely brief, it will be seen that the system of Exchange has been received with the most gratifying unanimity of approval and encouragement by every branch of the federal government. It has been testified not only by munificent gifts, but by legal provisions which secure, on a firm and liberal basis, the future operations of exchange. The States which have, and shall hereafter co-operate in its support may transmit the objects which they wish to exchange to the Custom House at New-York, with the certainly that they will there be safely kept, subject to the order of the Agency; while at the same time the returns made from Europe will be received at the same depository, to await an order from their respective destinations. The government has thus virtually constituted one of its own most important functionaries the agent for the safe keeping and transmission of the material of exchange. The effect of this measure upon the regularity and stability of the operations of the system are too obvious to need comment.

THE UNITED STATES MINT, at Philadelphia, has been directed, by the Secretary of the Treasury, to furnish a complete series of the coins of the United States, together with copies of all medals ordered by the government. They are in return for a series of medals illus-

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trative of the history of France, presented by the French Government to that establishment.

The AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY, though not connected in any way with the government, may yet, with propriety, be mentioned here as a public establishment, having its business centre at the Federal Metropolis. The following letter from the Secretary of the Society will show the willingness of that Association to co-operate in the establishment of the system of exchange:

"COLONIZATION ROOMS,
"*Washington City, September* 15, 1848.

"MY DEAR SIR: Being aware of the efforts which you are making to establish a system of National Exchanges, and desiring to contribute something towards so great and noble an object, I present herewith, in the name of the *American Colonization Society*, one set of the *African Repository*, its monthly publication, and of its annual reports, together with a map of Liberia, census, &c., for the Minister of Marine of your country, and another set for the library of the city of Paris. In these publications will be found a complete history of colonization as carried by this society on the western coast of Africa, which has already resulted in the establishment of the independent republic of Liberia.

"Thus through your indefatigable efforts, any citizen of Paris or stranger visiting there, can make himself acquainted with the history and prospects of one of the noblest schemes of philanthropy and benevolence which mark the present age.

"The Republic of Liberia would doubtless be glad to participate in the benefits which you are bestowing upon mankind. It is true they as yet have no *books*; they, however, have two newspapers, which have been regularly published for several years; they have also a volume of their laws published by authority, and from one of their own presses. They have also great richness in their animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms, and could doubtless furnish, in return for books, many objects of interest to your country.

"As everything connected with Africa, with the history of colonization in other parts of the world, is interesting and valuable to the members of our Society, any contribution of the kind which you may have in your power to collect for us will be most thankfully received

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and you will thus add another to the many reasons which our countrymen have to cherish you in their memories.

"I am, dear sir, your very obedient servant,

"W. McLAIN, *Sec. A. C. S.*

"A. VATTEMARE, Esq., *Washington city.*"

In addition to the works mentioned in the above were many others illustrative of the history of colonization, specimens of the fruits and woods of Liberia, &c., &c.

II. Having thus given a succint account of all that has been done at the seat of government for the support and encouragement of the system of exchange, the next branch of the report, as stated above, will be a consideration of the action taken by the State Legislatures upon the subject.

MAINE.—During my first visit to America I submitted a memorial to the Legislature of the State of Maine, which was referred by that body to its joint committee on the library, from whose report I beg leave to make the following extracts:

"The committee would recommend the passage of the resolves which are appended to this report. They propose in these to exchange the laws and resolves, and public documents, published by the authority of this State, for a similar return from France and other European governments."

* * * * * * * *

"The committee still further recommend, that a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars be appropriated, to be expended in promoting a system of exchange between Maine and the governments of Europe of the productions of natural history, the works of perfected art and of literature. The rich returns which will be derived by our country, whose institutions of science and literature are yet in their infancy, can hardly be appreciated or overrated."

The resolutions accompanying this report set apart, for the purpose of exchange, fifty copies of all the State documents, authorizing the governor to transmit them to the accredited agents of the system, and place at his disposal a sum of not more than a thousand dollars, "for the collection and exchange of original specimens of natural history and productions of useful art."

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Preferring that the system should be established upon a *permanent basis*, rather than have a brilliant beginning and a speedy death, I opposed so large an appropriation as the highest limit recommended by the committee, on the ground that it would afford a mark for the advocates of retrenchment, and thus jeopard the future existence of the plan. The Legislature, in accordance with this suggestion, finally determined upon an annual appropriation of three hundred dollars.

In July, 1847, after an absence of six years, I returned to the State of Maine, whose agent I had been appointed upon my first visit to America, and on the 22d of that month the Governor, by a special message, invited the attention of the Legislature to the subject of my mission. The message was referred to the Joint Committee on the Library, which brought in a highly favorable report, and recommended the passage of numerous resolves, from which we select the following:

"*Resolved*, That while the expensive and useful books and documents with which M. Vattemare has been entrusted by various authorities and institutions in France, for the library of this State, should be received with the respect due their intrinsic value and the distinguished sources whence they emanated, they possess much higher interest as tokens of the feelings of good will of the French nation towards America; and that we cordially reciprocate this sentiment, with a grateful remembrance of ancient obligations, and with the hope of a continued and increasing friendship between the two countries.

"*Resolved*, That duplicate copies of various works in the State library (not otherwise required) be tendered to M. Vattemare in continuation of the system of international exchanges so auspiciously commenced. The selections to be made under the supervision of the Secretary of State.

"*Resolved*, That one thousand copies of "Instructions on the best mode of collecting, preserving and transporting objects of Natural History," be printed, under the superintendence of the botanic surveyor of the State, and distributed, under his direction, to those societies and individuals within the State that might aid in promoting the designs of said instructions: reserving to M. Vattemare the number of copies of the "Instructions" he may desire, for his own use."

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The report of the committee, and all the proceedings of the government of Maine in relation to exchanges, have been printed in an elegant executive document, which reflects the highest credit upon her typographical skill and taste.

The whole action of this State has been in the highest degree honorable to her liberality and appreciation of learning and the arts, and has evinced the most praiseworthy anxiety to place within the reach of her people all the elements of increased cultivation and improvement which the literature, science and art of the Old World can afford. It is hoped that arrangements will be made for securing the permanence of her appropriation for the support of the system, which will enable the agency to rely with confidence upon it as one of its constant means of support.

VERMONT.—Early in November, 1847, in accordance with a previous notice, I visited Montpelier, to lay before the Legislature of Vermont an exposition of the system, and to request their co-operation. The Governor at once communicated the fact to the Legislature by a special message, in which he speaks of the benefits likely to result from the adoption of the system as "of the highest value," and such as "should commend it to the support of every intelligent and high-minded people." An address was delivered before the Legislature, explaining the plan, and giving an account of what had been done towards carrying it into operation. The message of the Governor was referred to the joint library committee, which brought in an excellent and eloquent report, from which I beg leave to make the following extracts:

"The splendid specimens of art, and the gorgeous volumes exhibited in the State Library, (the presents of the French nation,) naturally suggest the inquiry, 'What can we give in exchange for things like these?' Your committee answer, almost in the words of the memorialist: all products of American genius, taste, industry or invention; whatever serves to illustrate our history; our public documents and laws, the rich stores of nature herself; our plants, our animals, including quadrupeds, birds, reptiles, fishes and insects; our minerals, specimens of our various kinds of wood, with the description, uses and peculiarities of each; these would, from their very novelty, afford to the scientific men of Europe greater pleasure than the most costly book."

* * * * * * *

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"Several of our sister States have anticipated us in this enterprise, and already enjoy their reward in their public libraries, enriched by the productions of European genius, and in their public halls and galleries adorned with the triumph of ancient and modern art. What then shall be done by Vermont? Shall this massive and beautiful structure be the depository of treasures within, whose splendor shall surpass its architectural beauty? If we would become a people of refined taste and high endowments, and take rank with the most intelligent nations of the earth, now, and now only, is the propitious time to begin."

The resolutions accompanying this admirable report recommend that all duplicates in the State Library, not required by law to be preserved, be set apart for the purpose of exchange, and that five hundred copies of "instructions on the best mode of collecting, preserving, and transporting objects of natural history," be printed for distribution.

The act which followed appropriated two hundred dollars for the support of an agent of Exchanges.

The wishes of the Legislature were fully carried out: a handsome collection of duplicates was placed in my hands, to be presented in the name of the State to European institutions.

Massachusetts.—It would swell this report far beyond the limits I have prescribed for myself, to dwell in minute detail upon the action taken by each State. I shall be obliged, therefore, to confine myself to as brief a statement as possible of their proceedings. The following resolves and accompanying letter will sufficiently explain the course adopted by Massachusetts:

"*Resolves to promote mutual Literary and Scientific Exchanges with foreign countries.*

"*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Commonwealth, under the direction of his Excellency, the Governor, be authorised to exchange copies of the State maps of Massachusetts, not exceeding twenty in number, and bound copies of the laws and legislative documents of the Commonwealth for the current political year, not exceeding fifty volumes of each, for books and other works of science and art from foreign countries, to be deposited in the library of the General Court. And the Secretary is hereby authorised to cause fifty copies of each

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of the said documents, for every future year, to be printed, over and above the number, to be bound in volumes, and set aside for the purpose of effecting therefor said exchanges hereafter.*

"*Resolved*, That his Excellency, the Governor, be authorised to appoint some suitable person, residing in the city of Paris, France, to be the agent of the Commonwealth, in transmitting to, and receiving from, the Secretary's office all such books, and other works of science and art, as may be addressed to his care, in pursuance of the object of the preceding resolve, and to audit and allow all reasonable charges of said agent for the receiving, packing, carriage and exportation of said objects of exchange; provided, that the total sum so expended shall not exceed three hundred dollars.

"House of Representatives, February 26, 1845. Passed.
"SAML. H. WALLEY, Jr., *Speaker*.

"In Senate, February 27, 1845. Passed.
"LEVI LINCOLN, *President*.

"February 27, 1845. Approved. "GEO. N. BRIGGS.
"*Secretary's office, March* 15, 1845.

"A true copy. Attest: "JOHN G. PALFREY, *Secretary*.

"MY DEAR SIR: I send you herewith a copy of Resolves passed by our Legislature at its present session.

"I have it in charge from his excellency, the Governor, to say that he requests you to accept the appointment of agent under the second of the Resolves, and that he has no doubt that this Commonwealth will derive important benefits from your enlightened and liberal exertions.

"I am, dear sir, with the highest regard, your friend and servant,
"JOHN G. PALFREY,
"*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

"To A. VATTEMARE, Esq., *Paris, France.*"

RHODE ISLAND.—The letter of Prof. Jewett, which follows, gives a succint statement of the action of this State:

"BROWN UNIVERSITY, *Providence, January 29th*, 1846.

"DEAR SIR: Your letter to the Governor has been received, presented to the Legislature, and referred to the committee on education;

* According to this resolve, 150 volumes of Legislative documents, 12 copies of the geological reports, 52 scientific reports, 20 maps, have been transmitted.

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the chairman of the committee, Mr. Goddard, formerly a professor in our college, presented a report, with resolutions, thanking you for your generous exertions, and particularly for your handsome presents, and voting several extra copies of all reports and documents published by the State, and authorizing the Governor to pay all charges that may occur for the packing up and transportation of said books, and any others to be sent to us from Paris, through your agency. This was carried through the House and Senate unanimously, and it is, I believe, the only question which has been decided unanimously in our Legislature for a long time.

"You will probably receive the report and the votes by this steamer, or the next.

"The Rhode Island Historical Society have also passed votes of thanks and resolutions in favor of your project, which you will receive soon."

NEW-YORK.

On my first visit to this Capitol, the 25th of Oct. 1847, the joint library committee of the two houses to which was referred the message of the Governor, the communication of the trustees of the State Library, and other documents relative to the system of international exchanges, brought in a report which, after commenting in the most approving terms upon the sytem, and showing the rich fruits to be anticipated by the State and the country from its establishment, they recommend the passage of the act accompaning the report, in the following remarks:

"It seems, to your committee, proper that some testimonial more substantial than mere words of kindness and approbation should be afforded to this enterprize—that, in order to secure the future success and *permanency* of the system, some suitable person in Europe should be appointed, as the agent of this State, in transmitting and receiving all such books and other works as are intended as subjects of International Exchange.

"For that purpose, as well as for facilitating and encouraging the interchange between the several States of the American Union, your committee recommend to your consideration the bill, a copy of which is hereto annexed, marked A. An appropriation of five hundred dollars, for the promotion of these objects, was made by this State in the year 1846. (See Session Laws of 1846, p. 479.) The States of

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Maine and Massachusetts have since the year 1844, made an annual appropriation of three hundred dollars each, for the support of the agency in Paris only. These sums, though in themselves small, will if appropriated by all the States and Governments with which M. Vattemare has opened his system of interchanges, it is supposed, be sufficient to defray the expenses of the agency, together with the innumerable incidental expenses of the system, and secure to it a permanence which will ensure its entire success.".

(A.)

"AN ACT to provide for the support of the System of International Literary and Scientific Exchanges.

"*The People of the State of New-York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

"§ 1. The Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint some suitable person, residing in Europe, to be the agent of this State in transmitting to and receiving from this State all such works as are intended as subjects of International Exchange.

"§ 2. The sum of one thousand dollars is hereby appropriated, to be paid out of the treasury, on the warrant of the Comptroller, to the Regents of the University, to be by them applied in defraying the expense of such agency, and in such other manner as they shall deem best for the promotion of the System of Literary and Scientific International Exchanges founded by M. Vattemare, and exchanges between this State and the other States of the Union.

"§ 3. The further sum of six hundred dollars, to be paid as aforesaid, in each of the years 1848 and 1849, is hereby appropriated for the same purpose.

"§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately."

NEW-JERSEY.—The committee on education of this State, on the 21st of January, 1848, submitted a report, in which they dwell with great force upon the moral advantages of the plan, and conclude in following words:

"These Exchanges, are calculated to produce a two-fold benefit. On the one hand, they will impart and extend a knowledge of our country, where it is now comparatively unknown; and, on the other

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hand excite and increase in our land, and among our own population, a spirit of inquiry, and desire of more perfect information as to what other nations are accomplishing in the varied walks of science, literature, and art, which may bring forth the good fruits of wholesome emulation and amicable rivalry.

"Entertaining these views, your committee recommend for adoption the following resolution:

"*Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of New-Jersey*, (*Senate concurring*,) That the Secretary of State be directed to present to M. Vattemare, and through him to the Chamber of Deputies and the Minister of Commerce and Agriculture of France, the thanks of the Legislature of the State of New-Jersey, for the valuable present of books made by them to this State, and as a slight return for the same, that M. Vattemare be presented with copies of our State documents and laws, together with such other books which may throw light upon the history and resources of our State, as your committee shall select from the library of the State, to be distributed by him in such manner as he may think best calculated to effect the object of his important enterprize."

The joint resolutions adopted by the Legislature are as follows:

"*Joint resolutions relative to* M. A. VATTEMARE'S *system of International, Literary and Scientific Exchanges, and to provide for the support of an agency at Paris, in France.*

"1. *Be it resolved by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey*, That the sum of three hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to defray the expense of an agency in the city of Paris, in France, for the purpose of receiving and transmitting such works as may be made the subject of international exchanges.

"2. *And be it resolved*, That the Governor of this State be, and is hereby, authorised to appoint some suitable person as agent for the State of New Jersey at the city of Paris, in France.

"3. *And be it resolved*, That the said sum of three hundred dollars be transmitted by the Secretary of State, whenever officially informed that such agency has been duly established; and that the said agent be requested to report semi-annually, to the Governor of this State, of all his transactions and proceedings relative thereto."

PENNSYLVANIA.—My first application to the State of Pennsylvania was made on the 10th of April 1848. Although it was the last day

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of the session, I was received and heard with the utmost kindness, and the following handsome preamble and resolutions unanimously adopted:

"*Resolutions relative to International Exchanges, proposed by Alexandre Vattemare.*

"Whereas, Monsieur Alexandre Vattemare, a citizen of the Republic of France, having patriotically devoted his time, talents, and fortune, for a period of twenty years, to bring about a perfect system of International Exchange of specimens of natural history and works of science and art between the different nations of the world;

"And whereas, said Monsieur Alexandre Vattemare having presented to the Commonwealth at various times since the year 1843, a large number of rare and valuable works, which have been deposited in the State library;

"And whereas, said Monsieur Alexandre Vattemare having, at the request of the Pennsylvania delegation in the House of Representatives in the Congress of the United States, visited the capital of this Commonwealth for the purpose of conferring with the Legislature and officers of the government in reference to the most expedient measures to be pursued in furtherance of his most praiseworthy and important enterprise;

"And whereas the present session of the Legislature being about to expire, it is impracticable for it at this time to take such part in the consideration of the question as it otherwise would take great interest and pleasure in doing; therefore,

"*Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly met, and it is hereby resolved by authority of the same,* That the Governor and Secretary of this Commonwealth be, and they are hereby, authorised and requested to confer with said Monsieur Alexandre Vattemare, during the recess of the Legislature, upon the subject referred to in the preamble to this resolution, and to adopt such measures as they may deem most expedient to carry out the object in view, and report thereon at the next session of the Legislature.

"WILLIAM F. PACKER,
"*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*
"WM. WILLIAMSON,
"*Speaker of the Senate.*

"Approved, the tenth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight. "FRS. R. SHUNK."

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On my second visit to the Capitol of Pennsylvania, the following resolves were, on the 22d of February last, unanimously adopted by the General Assembly, and presented to me officially by his Excellency, the Governor of the State, on the 24th of March.

When I left Harrisburg, no measures had then been adopted in relation to the central agency of Paris; I have not the slightest doubt, however, that before the close of the session the great State of Pennsylvania will have cheerfully joined her sister States in this peaceful, intellectual confederacy of nations.

The warm feelings and great interest so eloquently expressed in behalf of the system of exchanges, are the best guaranties that could be given of the firm determination of this Honorable body to support a plan whose merits and importance are so clearly appreciated and exhibited in this official document, emanating from the enlightened and patriotic Legislature and Executive of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Harrisburg, March 24, 1849.

To Mons. A. VATTEMARE:

My dear Sir—In obedience to the instructions of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, permit me to enclose and present the highly deserved complimentary resolutions hereto annexed. The project of enlarging the means, and increasing the facilities among nations of an interchange of their intellectual treasures, will tend to render the people of the civilized world a community of brothers; will remove prejudice and ignorance from the human mind, lessen the causes of contention among nations, and generally promote the knowledge of true government, the success and permanency of science, morals and religion.

The enlightened citizen owes a debt of deep gratitude for your individual exertions, in the origin and establishment of this benevolent work.

Cordially uniting with the Legislature in an expression of kindness and confidence,

I remain, most truly,
Your friend,
WM. F. JOHNSON.

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Resolutions in relation to the System of International Exchanges.

Whereas, the State of Pennsylvania has received from the government and people of France, through the hands of Mons. Alexandre Vattemare, a large number of rare and valuable works on the arts and sciences, essays on political economy, agriculture, commerce and manufactures, together with important statistics relating to the political and social condition of France, and exhibiting her relations with other nations: And whereas, it is the duty, the interest and the pleasure of the people of this State, to acknowledge and reciprocate this evidence of national good will and friendship; be it therefore,

Resolved, That the thanks of this State be tendered to the Republic of France, for the liberal and valuable presents of works of literature and art, received through the hands of Mons. Alexandre Vattemare, and that, while we acknowledge the obligation of gratitude thus imposed upon us, we deeply regret that its expression has been inadvertently delayed so long.

Resolved, That this Commonwealth is earnestly desirous of cultivating the relations of amity and concord which have hitherto distinguished the intercourse of its citizens with those of France, and will cheerfully embrace the enlightened plan proposed by Mons. Vattemare for promoting the friendly relations of the two Republics, through the medium of reciprocal donations of their productions, and the international exchange of works of literature and art.

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Legislature, the plan of Mons. Vattemare is worthy of the earnest consideration and hearty co-operation of all the States of this Republic, and especially commends itself to the attention and respect of philanthropists everywhere, as one of the most practicable and effectual means of perpetuating the peace of the world, as it must necessarily render nations and communities familiar with each other; teach them how much the interests, the glory, and the happiness of the human family depend upon the exhibition of a generous forbearance, a lively sympathy, and a high sense of justice and honor, by and among its members, and inspire them with an abiding conviction, through a knowledge of each others moral, social and political condition, that every nation is capable of contributing something to the general good; that all are alike interested in whatever tends to elevate either, and that the world suffers when its nations arm for mutual injury or aggression.

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Resolved, That the thanks of this Legislature be and they are hereby tendered to Mons. Alexandre Vattemare, for the zeal, benevolence and ability displayed by him in the prosecution of his praiseworthy efforts to unite the nations of the world in a league of friendship and good will; whose bonds are the lights of science, the inspirations of genius, and the humanizing spirit of the arts of peace, and whose objects are the advancement of civilization, and the elevation and happiness of mankind.

Resolved, That the State Librarian be and he is hereby authorized and directed to collect and place at the disposal of Mons. Vattemare, to be by him presented to the Republic of France, in the name of the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the following works, to wit:

1. The Colonial Records of Pennsylvania.
2. Watson's Annals of Philadelphia.
3. The Revised Map of Pennsylvania.
4. Journal of the debates in the Convention to amend the Constitution of the State.
5. Journals of the Legislature from 1840 to 1849.
6. Purdon's digest, last edition.
7. Dunlop's " "
8. Wharton's Digest of the decisions of the supreme court, last edition.
9. A complete set of the books in use in the public schools.
10. Hazard's Pennsylvania Register.
11. The Constitution of the United States and of this State, together with the rules of the Legislature.
12. Matthias' Rules of Order.
13. A complete set of the works of Dr. Benjamin Franklin.

The said books to have a label thereon, expressing by whom and to whom they are sent; the school books to be neatly and uniformly bound, and the whole to be put in complete and proper order.

Resolved, That the Librarian be also authorized and directed to appropriate to the books received from France, a special place in the Library, designating the same by appropriate labels and devices.

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Resolved, That the expenses which may be incurred by the Librarian, in pursuance of the foregoing resolutions, shall be charged to account of the library, and be settled and paid as other expenses incident thereto.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to present one copy of these resolutions to Mons. Vattemare, and to forward another copy to the American Minister at Paris, to be by him presented to the President of France.

WILLIAM F. PARKER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
GEORGE DARSIE,
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved the twentieth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

WILLIAM F. JOHNSON.

On motion of Mr. Small and Mr. Matthias, said report was read a a second time, considered and adopted.

Ordered, That the clerk inform the house of Representatives accordingly.

The House concurred in the above resolutions, and added the following:

Resolved, That hereafter twenty copies of all the public documents and laws, published by order of the House of Representatives of this Commonwealth, shall be set apart and placed at the disposal of Mons. Vattemare, to facilitate his praiseworthy effort relative to international exchanges, and the cultivation of good will between the Republic of the United States and the Republic of France; which, on motion of Mr. Cooper, was considered and unanimously adopted.

DELAWARE.—The Governor of Delaware, in a letter dated January, 1848, expresses his intention to "lay the plan before the next Legislature, (in January, 1849,) with the expression of (his) cordial approval," and promises to give to the promotion of my views not only the influence of an official recommendation, but the weight of his personal sanction.

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Dover, March 12, 1849.

Sir—I take pleasure in communicating to you, by request of the Legislature of this State, a copy of certain joint resolutions, passed unanimously by both Houses at the late session, relative to your system of international exchange.

These resolutions evince a just appreciation of the value of the system, and the philanthropic spirit of its projector, and engage for it the permanent co-operation of the State of Delaware. I may add, that they express the sentiments not only of the members of the late General Assembly, but also of the citizens of the State at large.

The annual appropriation of one hundred dollars, although less than the contributions made by other States, will be found to bear a full proportion to our relative population and wealth.

Wishing you the full and speedy accomplishment of the great object of your labors,

I am, dear sir,
With high consideration,
Your ob't serv't,
WILLIAM SHARP.

ALEXANDRE VATTEMARE, Esq.

Joint resolutions relative to M. Alexandre Vattemare's system of International Exchanges.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Delaware, in General Assembly met, That this Legislature fully appreciate the importance of the objects contemplated by Mons. Alexandre Vattemare's system of international exchanges. That it regards his scheme as eminently adapted to diffuse knowledge and advance the general intelligence and refinement, to unfold the natural resources and mental treasures of each nation to all others, and to unite all in the happy bonds of a close intellectual sympathy and fellowship.

2. ***Resolved***, That in the name of the State of Delaware, which is invited to partake of the benefits of the proposed system of exchange, the Legislature tenders to its distinguished projector this expression of its profound gratitude; and assures him of its high appreciation

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of the noble spirit of philanthropy which has induced him to devote his life, talent and fortune to the promotion of an enterprise which, while it proposes immense advantage to the world, offers no personal benefit to himself.

3. *Resolved*, That there be delivered to M. Vattemare, under the direction of the Governor, such of the public books and documents as in his judgment can conveniently be spared from the public library, including six copies of the Laws, Legislative Journals, and Documents, Debates and Journals of the Convention of 1831, and Judicial Reports of this State; also six copies of Ferris' History of the early settlement of Delaware, the Delaware Register and Geological Survey, and such mineralogical specimens of which there may be duplicates in the State Library, that the same may be presented in the name of the State to the American Library of the city of Paris, the Library of the National Assembly of France, and the Minister of Justice of France, and to such other public institutions as M. Vattemare may select.

4. *Resolved*, That such of the above works as cannot be conveniently furnished from the Library be purchased and paid for under the warrant of the Governor, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

5. *Resolved*, That twenty copies of the Laws, Legislative Journals, Judicial Reports, &c., and of all other works hereafter to be published by authority of the State, shall be reserved and deposited in the office of the Secretary of State for the purposes of international exchange, and the Secretary of State shall transmit the said extra copies, the same being first suitably bound, to such agents as may be duly authorised to receive the same for the purpose above mentioned.

6. *Resolved*, That M. Alexandre Vattemare is hereby constituted the agent of this State for effecting international exchanges with such governments, public institutions and cities of Europe, as shall adopt his system, and for the necessary expenses to render such an agency permanent and effectual the annual sum of one hundred dollars is hereby appropriated, to be paid by the State Treasurer on the warrant of the Governor, to the order of Mons. Vattemare, or of any agent of the said system by him employed in this country; the authority of such agent to receive the same being first duly certified to

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the Governor under the hand of the said M. Vattemare, and filed in the office of the Secretary of State.

7. *Resolved*, That the Secretary of State be, and he is hereby directed to cause to be published one hundred copies of the proceedings of the General Assembly in relation to the subject of international exchanges, two copies whereof shall be for the use of each member, and the residue to be disposed of by the Governor of the State.

8. *Resolved*, That the Governor be requested to communicate to M. Vattemare a copy of these resolutions.

Passed at Dover, February 19th, 1849.

JOSEPH P. COMEGYS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives pro tempore.

WILLIAM W. MORRIS,
Speaker of the Senate.

STATE OF DELAWARE, ss.

I, Daniel M. Bates, Secretary of the State of Delaware, do certify that the foregoing is a true copy of certain joint resolutions passed by the General Assembly of the said State at Dover, the 19th day of February, A. D. 1849, compared with the original rolls filed in the office of the Secretary of State.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and af-
[L. S.] fixed the great seal of the said State, at Dover, this 17th day of March, A. D. 1849.

DANIEL M. BATES,
Secretary of State of the State of Delaware.

MARYLAND.—At the December session of the Legislature, in 1841, the State Librarian made a report, in which he recommended the adoption of the system of exchange; and on the 10th of March, 1842, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolution of the General Assembly of Maryland, passed March* 10, 1842.

"No. 11. *Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That fifty copies of the laws, public documents, and journals of the Senate and House of Delegates, of the number annually printed for distribution among the several counties and Howard district of this State, shall be, and the several printers to the Legislature are hereby au-

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thorised to deposit the same in the State Library for the purpose of exchange in foreign countries; that the Librarian be, and he is hereby authorised and required to have the same bound, and to transmit the above extra copies of the laws, public documents, journals of the Senate and of the House of Delegates, together with such surplus books, now remaining in the library, as the joint committee on the library may direct, to the agents of foreign countries in the United States authorised to receive the same for the above purpose."

On the 9th of March, 1844, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolution, passed March* 9, 1844.

"No. 53. *Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That, for the purpose of carrying into effect the resolution of December session, 1841, No. 11, directing the Librarian to perform certain duties, that his Excellency, the Governor, be authorised to pay, out of any unappropriated money in the Treasury, such sums of money as may be necessary, under the said resolution, to defray the expenses incurred in the exchange of surplus books, documents, &c., with the agents of foreign countries, as may from time to time be authorised by the joint committee on the library."

VIRGINIA.—On the 5th of April, 1848, the Governor of Virginia addressed to me a communication, from which I beg leave to make the following extract:

"EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
"*Richmond, Virginia, April* 5, 1848.

"Dear Sir—You will receive, herewith, sundry resolutions of the General Assembly of Virginia, adopted on the 23d of March, 1848, in which that body, expressing the sentiment of Virginia, approve your 'noble design,' applaud the spirit which conceived, and the enthusiasm which has achieved it, and tender you the agency for this State for the purpose of sustaining and continuing it."

The resolutions accompanying this letter were the following:

"*Resolutions of the General Assembly of Virginia.*

"Whereas, the Legislature of Virginia regards with interest the noble design of a national interchange of productions of art, science, industry and natural history, projected by Mons. Alexandre Vatte-

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mare, and patronized with such magnificence by the French Government, and is desirous of contributing to a work so important—

"*Resolved by the General Assembly*, That the spirit which has conceived this design is as admirable as the disinterested enthusiasm which has achieved it; and that this Legislature, as a testimonial of its appreciation of the character and services of its distinguished author, hereby invite him to visit the halls of Legislature during the session of the Legislature, and hereby tender to him the appointment of agent for the State of Virginia for conducting the exchange of such subjects as may be presented by Virginia to France.

"*Resolved*, That the Legislature has learned with gratitude that France, of whose prosperity we always hear with pleasure, and in whose misfortunes we always sympathise, has presented to Virginia literary works of a rare, useful, and costly character, for which it is incumbent to make some return, even if inadequate.

"*Resolved*, That the State Librarian be instructed to forward to the agent of International Exchanges such copies of the Code and of the Law Reports, of the Journals and other legislative documents, or other works, as may be spared without detriment to the library. He shall forward such reports of the moral, social, and political statistics of Virginia, as may tend to diffuse amongst other nations a correct knowledge of her institutions, her condition, and her capacities; that he shall likewise forward any private donations intended for the department of International Exchanges; and that he be required to report annually to the joint committee of the library."

INDIANA.—The following letter from the Governor of this State, with the resolutions which accompany it, will show the highly liberal course which she has pursued in relation to exchanges. I ought to add that all the proceedings of her Legislature upon the subject have been printed together in an executive document which, for typographical beauty, would do credit to the oldest State of the Union:

"INDIANAPOLIS, *Indiana*, *March* 2, 1848.

"Dear Sir—Your letter, and the accompanying documents with which I was favored, were duly laid before the Legislature of this State at its last session, with a recommendation of your proposed system of International Literary Exchanges. In accordance with my

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expressed wish, a joint resolution was passed by that body, a copy of which I take pleasure in enclosing to you; the terms of which, although not as liberal as could have been desired, yet, in the present condition of the finances of the State, it is hoped may prove satisfactory.

"I gladly avail myself of the occasion to repeat the invitation extended to you by the General Assembly, to visit this place, at such time as may suit your convenience, for the purpose indicated in the inclosed joint resolution.

"That you may succeed in your laudable public spirited enterprise beyond your most sanguine expectations, and that your life may be spared until you reap a well-merited reward for the time, labor and talent which you have so generously bestowed upon it, is my fervent wish.

"I am, dear sir, very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

"JAMES WHITCOMB,

"*Governor of Indiana.*

"UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

"STATE OF INDIANA.

"*A Joint Resolution relative to International Literary Exchanges.*

"*Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,* That the duties devolved on the Secretary of State by a joint resolution, approved January 15, 1844, and also a joint resolution approved January 27, 1847, both in relation to International Literary Exchanges, be, and the same are hereby devolved on the State librarian, who is directed to fit up in the State library rooms all necessary shelves and cases for the reception and safe-keeping of such exchanges as shall be presented to the State; and who shall also, in his annual report to the General Assembly, make a separate and detailed statement of their extent and condition.

"*Be it further resolved,* That Alexandre Vattemare, who projected said system of International Exchanges, and is now in the United States, with the view to its more perfect development and general adoption, is justly entitled to the thanks of the General Assembly and the people of Indiana, for his exalted and untiring efforts in establishing for them a direct intercourse with the minds and hearts of Europe, of which valuable fruits have already been tendered to the State;

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and, in testimony of their appreciation of his eminent services, the said Alexandre Vattemare is hereby invited, by the General Assembly, to visit the Capitol of Indiana at his earliest convenience, for the purpose of conferring with the Governor in relation to his system of exchanges, and the best method of rendering it permanently subservient to the welfare of the State; and the Governor is hereby authorised to adopt any and all arrangements, within the means granted by this resolution, as will most effectually and amply accomplish the object in view.

"*Be it further resolved*, That Alexandre Vattemare is hereby constituted the agent of this State in effecting International Exchanges with such governments, public institutions, and cities of Europe, as shall adopt his system; and for the necessary expenses to render such agency permanent and effectual, an annual sum, not exceeding four hundred dollars, is hereby appropriated to be paid out of the Treasury on warrant of the auditor of State, who shall issue the same on the certificate of the Governor that the amount certified has been properly expended.

"*Be it further resolved*, That there shall be anually printed and bound fifty extra copies of all laws, resolves, journals, and legislative documents, which shall be especially set apart for international exchanges; and the governor and State librarian are hereby authorized to select such duplicate works in the State library as can be spared, to be used for the same purpose.

"*Be it further resolved*, That the instructions on the best mode of collecting, preserving, and transporting objects of natural history, which were communicated with the documents accompanying the Governor's special message, be added to the documentary journal, and that five hundred extra copies be printed for distribution, under the direction of the Governor, with such other documents as he shall deem useful and proper.

"*Be it further resolved*, That the Governor be requested to communicate a copy of this joint resolution to said Alexandre Vattemare.

"WILLIAM A. PORTER,
"*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*
"PARIS C. DUNNING,
"*President of the Senate.*

"Approved, Febuary 12, 1848.
JAMES WHITCOMB."

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MICHIGAN.—On the 12th of March, 1844, the following preamble and resolutions passed the Legislature of Michigan:

"*Preamble and Joint Resolution relative to Mons. Vattemare's system of International Literary Exchanges.*"

"WHEREAS Mons. Alexandre Vattemare, a citizen of France, has, with an unexampled zeal, devoted his time, his energies, and his fortune, to the philanthropic effort of establishing an intellectual confederacy among the nations of the earth:

"AND WHEREAS his system of international literary exchanges is not only promotive of science and the improvement of literature and the arts, but is also conducive to the fraternization of governments, and the diffusion of civilization throughout the globe:

"AND WHEREAS the project has been approved by the chambers and ministers of France, by the Congress of the United States, and the Legislatures of several of the States, and by the statesmen and literati of both nations—

"*Be it therefore resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Michigan*, That in grateful acknowledgments of his disinterested labors in the cause of humanity, and for the valuable works presented by him to the State, the thanks of the people of Michigan are respectfully tendered to Mons. Alexandre Vattemare by the representatives of the people in Legislature convened.

"*Resolved*, That his Excellency, the Governor, be, and he hereby is, authorized and requested to receive the parcel of books transmitted by Mons. Vattemare, through Lewis Cass, jr., esq., to the State of Michigan, and also the parcel consigned to E. Thayer & Co., forwarding merchants in the city of New-York, and to place the same in the State library.

"*Resolved*, That his Excellency be, and he hereby is, further authorized and requested to transmit to Mons. Vattemare a copy of the revised statutes and session laws of the State of Michigan, together with the journals and documents of both houses of the Legislature, and such maps of the several counties as are now completed.

"*Resolved*, That the State geologist be, and he hereby is authorized and requested to examine and report to the next Legislature what du-

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plicate specimens of the natural history of Michigan are in his department of the university.

"*Resolved*, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives be requested, to use their best efforts to obtain the appointment of Mons. Alexandre Vattemare, as an agent of the General Government, to act in behalf of this State, with power to conduct literary exchanges between France and the United States.

"*Resolved*, That his Excellency be, and he is hereby, requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions, and the report of the committee on education, to Mons. Alexandre Vattemare, and to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

"EDWIN N. LOTHROP,
"*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*
"EDWIN M. CURT,
"*President of the Senate*, (*pro tem.*)

"Approved, March 12, 1844.

"JNO. S. BARRY."

South Carolina.—Having left Columbia before the engrossing of the resolves and bill expressive of the warm sympathy of the Legislature towards the system, and which placed at my disposal more than a thousand volumes for international exchange, I cannot reproduce them here; but the following letter from his Excellency, the Governor of South Carolina, will give an idea of the kind feeling of the Legislature and Executive of this most hospitable State:

Executive Department,
Charleston, S. C., Dec. 23, 1848.

My dear Sir—I have the honor herewith to transmit your commission as agent for the State of South Carolina, in effecting the system of International Exchanges. The intellectual and political revolution which you are silently but surely accomplishing among the nations of the world, is one of the most stupendous and startling of which the mind is capable of forming an accurate conception.

In successfully persuading the crowned heads of the old world to extend the right hand of fellowship to republican America, in the mode prescribed by you, requires all the energy of a highly gifted intellect, united by boundless enthusiasm, and sustained by the wisdom and goodness of God. The interest and happiness of mankind

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are so deeply involved in the matter of your mission, that the result cannot be doubted. Go on, then, until your triumphant banner shall be seen in every quarter of the globe.

Fraternally yours, &c.

WHITEMARSH B. SEABROOKS.

To M. Alexandre Vattemare.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Executive Department of North Carolina,
January 26, *A. D.* 1849.

To Mons. Alexandre Vattemare:

Dear Sir—I have the honor to communicate a copy of an act of the General Assembly of North Carolina, ratified on the 24th day of January, 1849, upon the subject of "International Literary Exchanges," and likewise to present you with a commission appointing you the agent of this State as therein provided for.

Suffer me to avail myself of this occasion to add my cordial approbation of your enlightened and philanthropic enterprise.

I have the honor to be,

Most respectfully,

Your ob't serv't,

CHAS. MANLY.

Resolutions relative to Mr. Vattemare's system of Literary and Scientific Exchanges.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby resolved by the authority of the same, That we highly appreciate, and cordially approve the system of International, Literary and Scientific Exchanges among the nations of the earth, proposed by Mr. Alexandre Vattemare; to the establishment of which, he has so long devoted his energies and fortune, and that we regard it as a wise and feasible means of disseminating knowledge, and preserving the relations of peace among the nations of the earth.

Be it further resolved, &c., That the meed of our approbation is due, and is hereby tendered to Mr. Vattemare, for his untiring perseverance and philanthropic labors in carrying into execution his great design; that he has our earnest hopes for his success; that he has our warmest thanks for his visit amongst us, and for the valuable donations in books and prints with which he has enriched our library.

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Be it further resolved, &c., That there be presented to Mr. Vattemare, as an humble token of our high appreciation of his system, under the direction of the Governor of this State the following works, to wit: [Here follows a list of works, mostly duplicates in the State library, directed to be presented to Mr. Vattemare under the direction of the Governor, consisting of Reports of the Supreme Court, Digests of the same, Revised Statutes, Acts of Assembly, Journals of the Legislature, &c., &c.]

Be it further resolved, &c., That such of the above works as cannot be conveniently furnished from the library, be purchased and paid for under the warrant of the Governor, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Be it further resolved, &c., That there shall be annually transmitted hereafter to Mr. Vattemare, under the superintendance and direction of the Governor, six copies of all books containing the Journals, Laws, Judicial Reports, &c., &c., and all other works published under the authority of this State, to be distributed by said Vattemare to such of the institutions and authorities of France, as he, in his discretion, may select.

A Bill to provide for the support of the system of International, Literary and Scientific Exchanges.

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same*, That the sum of three hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated annually, to defray the expense of an agency in the city of Paris, in France, for the purpose of receiving and transmitting such works as may be the subject of International Exchange between the State of North Carolina and France.

§ 2. *Be it further enacted, &c.*, That the Governor of this State be, and he is hereby authorised to appoint some suitable person as agent for the State of North Carolina, at the city of Paris, in France.

§ 2. *Be it further enacted, &c.*, That the sum of three hundred dollars be transmitted by the Governor of this State to such agent, whenever such agency has been officially established; and that said agent be requested to report annually to the Governor of this State, his proceedings and transactions relative thereto, to be by the Governor laid before the General Assembly biennially.

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§ 4. *Be it further enacted, &c.*, That one thousand copies of the proceedings of this General Assembly in relation to this subject, together with the Address of Mr. Vattemare, and the "instructions on the best mode of collecting, preserving and transporting objects of natural history," be printed, three copies for the use of each member, twelve copies for the University of the State, six copies for Wake Forest College, six copies for Davidson College, twelve copies for the State Library, one copy to be sent to the Governor of each State in the Union, and the balance to be distributed under the direction of the Governor of this State.

§ 5. *Be it further enacted, &c.*, That this act shall be in force and take effect from and after its passage.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.—The Legislature of this enlightened and prosperous State, by resolves and acts passed the 4th of January last, adopted the system of International Exchanges, granting fifty copies of the laws, and other legislative documents of the State, reports and decisions of the Supreme Court, thirty copies of Jackson's Geological Survey of New-Hampshire, &c., and an annual appropriation of two hundred dollars for New-Hampshire's liberal contributions for the support of the United States Central Agency in Paris. It is but a few days ago, from a letter from my agent in Paris, dated February 20th, 1849, and which reached me on the 29th of March, that I was officially informed of this most liberal action of the Legislature, in behalf of the system of exchange. The documents containing the resolves, &c., having been transmitted by the Executive, to the agency in Paris, I am deprived of the gratification of publishing these interesting documents.

III. Wide as is the field which the system of International Exchanges proposes to occupy, it is a simple scheme which may be grasped by the intelligence of a child. It is a plan which is designed to give to the intellectual treasures of the civilized world the same dissemination and equalization which commerce has already given to its material ones. By means of the agency of commerce, all productions which can administer to the support, comfort, or enjoyment of human life, which exist in superabundance in one quarter, are transported to another, so that every nation enjoys all that can be found in every other. The American gentleman is indebted for the luxuries upon his table, the elegancies of his dress, and the splendor of his drawing

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room, to every quarter of the globe. The system of exchanges proposes to go one step farther. It has for its comprehensive design to place at the disposal of every nation all the sources of intellectual culture and of refinement of taste which are possessed by the most favored of its fellows; and to accomplish this desirable object by means which shall open, foster, and cement relations of amity and good fellowship between the parties concerned.

I am aware that a plan somewhat similar has long been in operation with regard to particular institutions and particular departments of human knowledge. Science has long acknowledged the importance, the indispensableness of such a course to the rapid advance of its great interests, and scientific bodies throughout the world are in the constant receipt of the published proceedings and papers of colaborers in the great cause. Its incredible progress, and the splendid results which everywhere surround us, and form the crowning glory of our age, are a sufficient testimonial to the wisdom of this unity of action. Yet even these exchanges have sought the ordinary channels of trade, and have been subject to all the interruptions and burdened with all the taxes which encumber it.

The system of exchange does not propose to interfere in any way with any similar plan already in operation. Its main design is to open a channel of communication between the PEOPLE of the various nations of the world, which shall bring them together upon the neutral ground of letters, and by making them better acquainted with each others' laws, manners and customs, and intellectual wealth, by acts of mutual kindness and courtesy, to cultivate the spirit of peace and of reciprocal respect and good feeling.

Extensive business arrangements are necessary to carry out the plan. It was proposed to establish in the United States a central depôt, to which all objects of exchange can be transmitted to be shipped to foreign countries, and where all returns from abroad may be received and sent to their respective destinations in America. It will be seen, by reference to the two Treasury circulars before quoted, that this depôt is, by the official act of the Treasury Department, established at the New-York Custom House.

In connection with this depôt will be a similar one in Paris, through which all exchanges are to pass. The depôt in Paris will also be the

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seat of the General Agency, which will have the management of all the business of exchange, where all the responsibility for its faithful conduct will rest, and to which all subordinates will be accountable. The General Agency will employ subordinate agents in the capitals of all the nations and states which unite in the support of the system, who will be paid by it and report to it: these agents will be charged with the receipt and transmission of all objects of exchange, and all the transactions of the general agency with their State or nation, will be conducted through them.

Such is, in brief, an outline of the *machinery* which it is in contemplation to employ. The necessity for it will be apparent from a few obvious considerations which I have already urged in a communication which I had the honor to submit to the joint committee on the library of Congress during the past session, from which I beg leave to make the following extract:

"In the conduct of a system involving such a number of multifarious operations, *unity of action* is the first of all the conditions of success. A single establishment, ramifying itself by means of its agents wherever its operations demand its presence, must be made the responsible head, from which all the transactions of exchange throughout the world are to be controlled and directed, and where all accountability is to rest. Division of this responsibility would lessen its force, and would take away the necessary guaranty for the faithful execution of the trusts imposed.

"With this view, and in accordance with the united opinions of the ablest men and the first scientific bodies of both continents, Paris has been selected as the seat of a Central Agency, having collateral branches in the capitals of the several States who unite in the support of the system. It will form the great heart, receiving from all quarters, and transmitting to all, the intellectual life-blood of the nations, their literature, science and arts. All the agents of the system will be responsible to the Central Agency, and it, in its turn, will be responsible to the nations which make it the channel of their exchanges.

"For the support of this agency, an estimate was submitted to you several months ago, which I beg leave to recapitulate here:

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"For one chief clerk,	$1,600
" one assistant,	450
" two messengers,	400
" agents, resident at capitals of States,	3,000
" publication of quarterly report,	2,000
" rent, &c., of office,	400
" traveling expenses,	1,500
" incidental expenses,	1,500
Total,	$10,250

"The report referred to in the above estimate is one of the most important features of the plan, as it offers the most certain guaranty for the faithful expenditure of the funds appropriated for the support of the system, as well as for the proper distribution of the books, and other articles of exchange, entrusted to its care. It will exhibit, in the minutest detail, not only the pecuniary accounts of the agency, but the disposition made of every article that passes through its hands, so that every institution and every individual who shall have contributed even the smallest pamphlet for purposes of exchange, will be able to ascertain at once whether it has been faithfully transmitted to its destination. The system of accountability will thus be rigid and complete. The report, while thus operating as a salutary check upon agents disposed to be unfaithful, will serve the further, and not less useful purpose of furnishing to the institutions of the various countries connected with the plan, the means of ascertaining what each might obtain from the other, and where the objects desired could be procured. The operations of the system have not unaptly been compared to the circulation of the blood: this particular feature of it will correspond to the function of *nutrition*, which enables each part to appropriate whatever is best adapted for its own nourishment and growth.

"Of the sum required for the support of the agency, $3,400 have already been secured by the legislative appropriations of various States, viz:

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"By the State of	Maine,	$300
"	Massachusetts,	300
"	Vermont,	200
"	New-York,	600
"	New-Jersey,	300
"	Indiana,	400
"	Virginia,	400
"	South Carolina,	300
"	Delaware,	100
"	North Carolina,	300
"	New-Hampshire,	200
		$3,400

Add to this the sum appropriated by the Federal Government, ($2,000,) and we have a balance of but $4,850 to be secured from the nineteen other States which have not yet acted on the subject. The interest everywhere manifested throughout the Union in the success of the system, warrants me in the expectation that, not only the eleven other States which have already opened communications with me on the subject, in terms favorable in the highest degree to the design, but every State in the Union will cheerfully contribute towards the support of the Central Agency at Paris."

It will be seen from the statements in the above extract that the sums asked of the various States are exceedingly small, yet they will be still farther diminished when the system has once been put in full operation, and all its transactions reduced to perfect regularity. Trifling as these sums individually are, the aggregate of them forms the working capital of the system, and hence the indispensable necessity of their being made *permanent*. The sole object of asking them at all is to secure the permanence of the relations which the system of exchange has already been so successful in establishing between the civilized nations of the world; relations, the importance of which cannot be diminished by time. I have, therefore, most respectfully, but most earnestly, to request that some measure may be recommended to the Legislature of your State, calculated to place the annual appropriation beyond the reach of those causes which might operate temporarily to interrupt it. Thus the Central Agency would be enabled to found its expenses upon a perfectly safe basis.

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In France, an old country, with a dense population, where the business relations of men are marked by a permanence and solidity which the circumstances and wants of a new country forbid, it would be impossible for me to secure the services of such men as the duties of the agency will require, unless I had it in my power to offer them the surest guaranties of the certainty and permanence of the means upon which I rely for their remuneration. I trust the importance of these considerations will lead to such action on the part of the various States, whose agent I have the honor to have been appointed, as will relieve my mind from all anxiety on the subject.

A brief notice of the advantages which may reasonably be expected from the full realization of the system of exchange will close this report, which I fear has already extended beyond the limits which I ought to have set to my demands upon your patience.

To America, it is believed that the increased knowledge and appreciation of her intellectual wealth and resources, which must result from the wide dissemination of her products of mind throughout the civilized world, would be more than a full remuneration for a hundred times the expenditure which is necessary to secure it; if, indeed, any pecuniary estimate is not wholly out of place in calculating the value of such appreciation. It is a lamentable fact that the United States do not occupy that high place, in European estimation, to which her social and national position entitle her. She is either seen through the distorted medium of a foreign press, or judged from the narrations of ignorant, prejudiced, or mercenary travelers, who visit her shores merely to discover such faults and foibles as will enable them to make a saleable book. Had the people of Europe an opportunity of learning your wise and salutary laws; the peaceful, yet powerful working of your free government; your admirable institutions for the punishment of vice, and the relief of honest poverty; the freedom of your religious views, and the universal means of education which you possess; your public works and public press, rivaling each other in public benefit; your immense natural resources, and the enterprising industry of your citizens; could this knowledge but be diffused, Europe would at once be forced to respect and admire you for other than military or commercial triumphs, and feel proud that your continent was peopled by her sons.

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One great step towards the spread of the knowledge of America and her institutions in Europe has already been made by the system of exchange in the formation of an AMERICAN LIBRARY in the city of Paris. The library is already in existence, and contains a highly valuable collection of American books, constantly increased by the large transmissions which American liberality is constantly enabling me to make to it of the richest productions of the national mind. In the hall of this library, each State of the American Union has an alcove expressly appropriated for the reception of its contributions, each severally distinguished by its name, arms, and the date of its incorporation, so that the thousands of Frenchmen, and foreigners of every nation, who visit the Hotel de Ville weekly, must, per force, become better acquainted with the history and genius of your glorious country. I appeal to American patriotism, to aid me in making this library a worthy monument to the intellect and liberality of the nation.

The advantage to the book trade which must be derived from having copies of the best American works placed in the great Government libraries of Europe, acting as a standing advertisement of the publishers and authors, is too obvious to require that it should be more than hinted. The same remark will apply to important American inventions. The American patentee could not be robbed of his right in, or the credit he deserves for, a useful invention, if the drawings, specification, and model were deposited in a foreign patent office as the evidence of his claim. This view was taken by the present able and liberal head of the U. S. Patent Office when he placed in my hands copies of the specifications and drawings of the most important inventions patented during the past year, to be presented to the Minister of Commerce and Agriculture of France.

The operations of the General Agency, when once it is fully established, may gradually, and with great advantage, be extended so as to embrace objects collateral to its main design. Statistical information of every kind may seek that channel for dissemination, and as an object directly in line of its chief purpose, to promote international good will, a bureau might eventually be engrafted upon it which should be charged with the interests of emigrants, furnishing them with every species of information in relation to the region to which they propose to remove, the price of land and labor, its sanitary condition, the expenses of transportation to it, the articles most necessary

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for their comfort, &c., &c. Artisans might be directed to the point where their labors would be most likely to meet with reward, and the honest and deserving be furnished with certificates which should secure for them a welcome and good treatment upon their arrival. I merely hint at these things to show that the system contains within itself elements of usefulness which are yet undeveloped.

The encouragement which it affords to the formation of new libraries and museums is among the prominent benefits promised by the system. It contemplates, as one of the most certain elements of its own permanent success, the establishment, in every quarter of the world, of free public libraries and museums, ever open to the use of the people. For the founding of such institutions peculiar inducements and facilities are offered by the system of exchange. It gives a new and enhanced value to objects which were before, on account of their abundance, disregarded in their own peculiar locality. The laws, reports, and all the legislative documents of governments, assume, as the circulating medium of exchange, a value far beyond their cost, and will ensure returns of priceless works which could be obtained in no other way; and yet these documents are often stowed away in garrets as useless rubbish, or sold by the pound as waste paper. In addition to these, the town, city, or State, desirous of founding a library, has, in its specimens of natural history, its animal, vegetable, and mineral productions, an almost exhaustless fund, convertible, through the instrumentality of exchange, into books and works of art. Thus a very limited expenditure of money will produce results of the highest value.

Every State in the American Confederacy, I believe, has, at its capital, a collection of books known as the State Library. In most of them, however, the works are chiefly of a legal and political character, intended almost exclusively for the use of the legislators during the session of their body. In the intervals between the sessions the library is only occasionally open, and, even if open all the time, would be of little benefit to the mass of the public, who either feel no interest in, or are not prepared to understand the subjects to which the works are mainly devoted. Science, general literature, and the fine arts, have no place among them; and literary men, and the reading part of the public, do not make these libraries places of resort for literary relaxation, or for severer study. There are doubtless exceptions, but such is the general character of these institutions.

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Now, this might very readily, and with the most desirable results, be changed. The resources of exchange, liberally employed, added to a very moderate annual appropriation, judiciously applied, would build up in your State capitals, libraries which would be just sources of pride, and afford, moreover, invaluable means of reference to scholars, and of cultivation and improvement to the whole people. There could be no spirit of exclusiveness in such institutions; each man would feel that he was enjoying the advantages which he had himself aided to procure, and that he and his children might freely avail of them without fear or favor. This would be a true intellectual democracy—the best books, selected to suit the wants of all classes and professions, *freely thrown open to the use of all.* With reference to exchanges, such a library would be the most proper channel through which the business should be conducted—the appropriate seat of the STATE EXCHANGE AGENCY. It would open an account with the institutions of the State desirous of partaking of the advantages of the system, and with the national central depôt, and thus be put in relation with the whole scientific and literary world.

A liberal system of domestic exchanges—each State setting apart for the library of each of her sister States copies of all the public documents, of every description, published by her authority—would make each of the State libraries a depository of the complete materials for the history of every State in the Union, and thus the liability of important public historical records to loss or destruction would be diminished thirty fold; while the lights they throw upon legislation would be placed in possession of legislators in every portion of the country.

Let the means which have been hinted be judiciously used, and the STATE LIBRARIES of America will, ere long, in extent and usefulness, equal any similar institutions in the world.

Great as undoubtedly are the advantages which have already been suggested as likely to flow from the general adoption of the system of exchange, yet it would be deprived of by far its greatest claim to the support of the wise and good, but for its important moral bearings. It is chiefly, as it tends to open between the people of the various nations of the world an intercourse of kindness and courtesy, to throw down the barriers of national prejudice, and cultivate a spirit

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of national peace and good will, that it appeals to the sympathy and encouragement of the patriot and philanthropist.

To employ the eloquent language of a report made by a committee of the common council of the city of New-York:

"Hitherto the intercourse of nations has hardly transcended the jealous boundaries of mere interest and of diplomatic etiquette. Ambassadors have been interchanged and treaties negotiated to prevent encroachment on either side, to regulate the trade, and to protect the citizens of the contracting parties. Even friendship in such cases has always taken care that the clang of the warlike sword should be heard in the embrace of peace, and that the grasp of amity should ever be given with the mailed hand. There is no instance of national relations, as your committee believe, in which the greatest care has not been taken lest the one might obtain some advantage over the other. But to the system of exchange is due the honor of introducing a higher and nobler spirit into national intercourse. It has conceived, and introduced into practice, the idea of true friendship between the great branches of the human family, of a friendship which aims at mutual benefits, rather than at self-interest, which has no suspicion and no jealousy, which gives and receives without carefully inquiring into values or calculating profits, which, while it is eminently peaceful and beneficent, holds in reserve no means of hostility, and no threats of war. Like the mysterious wires which stretch almost from one end of the continent to the other, annihilating distance, and making all places through which they pass to be like one place, so these mutual gifts are destined to remove the barriers of antagonist nationality, and render the nations of the earth, as they should be, one united family."

The united voice of hundreds of the greatest and best men of your country might be added to this glowing testimonial, but I can only allow myself to subjoin the following:

From the Hon. George M. Dallas, Vice President of the United States.

"This conception of M. Vattemare's, of such simplicity in execution, and of such enlarged philanthropy in results, is realized; its practical effects are seen, felt, appreciated; and, throughout civilization, the generous and wise cannot fail to establish and cultivate so

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certain a source of mental improvement, and so strong a bond of mutual respect and peace."

From the Hon. John Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy.

"In such exchanges the friends of free government may anticipate rich rewards. In this enlightened age such acts of national comity are calculated to strengthen the bonds of friendship, and promote offices of good will and kindness between nations, not likely to be sundered or forgotten, by making the people of each better acquainted with the institutions, the laws, the arts, sciences, and letters of the other."

From the Hon. Edmund Burke, Commissioner of Patents.

"This noble enterprize, which owes its origin to your devotion, enthusiasm, and persevering energy, will mark a new era in civilization. Nations, by interchanging the rich treasures of intellect, science, and art, will cultivate towards each other sentiments of mutual respect, sympathy, and good will; and thus will they learn to suppress those bad passions and vices which lead to contention, hostility, and bloodshed, and which have scourged and afflicted the world with sanguinary and desolating wars. To achieve so great a victory over the passions and vices of men and nations by such noble means will be the proudest of human triumphs."

From the Hon. James A. Pierce, United States Senate, Chairman of the Joint Library Committee, of Congress.

"That which was formerly only a figure of speech, will now be a substantial reality, and the scientific and literary union of nations, which your efforts have effected, will consolidate 'the republic of letters.'"

I have thus, sir, laid before you, as briefly as the subject would permit, a statement of the details of my plan, as well as of the condition and prospects of the system of exchange in your country. Flattering, as it undoubtedly appears, much will still depend upon the action which you are to take for its security and permanence. I rely with entire confidence upon your wisdom, and upon the friendly disposition towards the cause which you have already manifested.

Should the hopes which I have so much reason to indulge be indeed realized, then the intellectual union of nations will no longer be the

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dream of an enthusiast, but will have received from the western hemisphere an impulse which must secure its establishment; and the world, which has so lately witnessed with admiration the triumphs of American arms, will, in the more quiet and grateful pursuits of peace, owe a new debt of gratitude to American example.

With great respect,
I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
ALEXANDRE VATTEMARE.

Albany, March 29th, 1849.

His Excellency HAMILTON FISH,
Governor of the State of New-York:

Sir—The State of New-York having been one of the first and most powerful supporters of my system of International Literary Exchanges, by the liberal and splendid contributions of works published by order of the Legislature, as well as by the generous and fraternal hospitality with which I was treated whenever I have had the happiness to be the honored guest of your glorious State, I consider it to be my bounden duty to present to your Excellency the first report of my agent, showing his proceedings from January, 1848, to this time. By it, you will be able to judge what are the feelings toward this scheme, so well calculated to annihilate the distances which, nature, politics and national prejudices have erected between our two hemispheres.

My agent's report relates particularly to his labors in France, as the year just elapsed, owing to political events of that time, exhibit the most striking proofs of the influence of this new link forming itself between the United States and the first and most faithful friend of America.

I have the the honor to be,
With the most profound respect,
Your Excellency's very humble servant,
ALEXANDRE VATTEMARE.

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Echange International

Compte rendu des travaux de l'Agence pendant l'Année 1848–9.

MONSIEUR ALEXANDRE VATTEMARE:

Mon cher Amì—Vous savez par quels évènements s'est ouverte pour nous l'année 1848, un projét de banquet politique dans Paris à causé, le 23 Fevrièr, une agitation qui a été une revolution, le 24; je n'ai point à apprecier ici ce grand évènement dans son caractère essentiel et dans les conséquences qui en ont dècoulé sur la société. Votre Mission ne nous intéresse, Grace a Dieu, au triumphe ou à la dèfaite d'aucune opinion, d'aucun parti; et je ne me connais pas de devoìr qui m'oblige a entrer dans des considérations qui soient étrangères aux moyens et a la fin de vos travaux.

Toute fois pour vous faire bien comprendre les difficultés temporaires que j'ai rencontrées, je dois vous rappeler que la revolution n'avait pas seulement renversé un gouvernement; mais quélle avait aussi brisé toutes nos institutions et suspendu en quelque sorte la vie même de la nation. Aucun pouvoir régulier n'était resté debout, toutes les autorités, tous les Commendements, toutes les actions avaient été improvisés après la chute de Louis Philippe, personne ne savait exactement quelle pouvait être la mesure de ses droits ou de ses devoirs. Nous sommes demeurés dans cet état jusqu'à la réunion de l'Assemblée Nationale le 4 Mai.

On conçoit aisement l'immensité de la tâche qui dans cette confusion était échue aux hommes chargés des soins des affaires publiques. Beaucoup, à tous les dégrés de la hiérarchie, n'avaient touché an gouvernement de l'etat que par les critiques de leur constante opposition. Ils ignoraient les règles, les traditions, les services des administrations qui leur étaient tombées en partage. Ainsi il etait, se non impossible, au moins trés difficile de reprendre une affaire au point où elle avait été laissée, il fallait presque toujours la recommencer et l'instruire à nouveau.

Après la réunion de l'Assemblée Nationale, les évènements se sont précipités, les titulaires des fonctions publiques ont été changés

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[TRANSLATION.]

International Exchange.

Report upon the progress of the agency during the year 1848.

My Dear Friend—You are no stranger to the events which ushered in the year 1848. A projected political banquet produced on the 23d February a great excitement, and on the 24th a great revolution. It is not for me to attempt an appreciation of that important event in its essential character, or its results upon society. Your mission does not interest you in the triumph or defeat of any opinion or any party; and no duty invites me to the consideration of a subject foreign to your labors and mine.

That you may comprehend, however, the difficulties I have encountered, I must recall to your mind that the revolution not only overwhelmed the government, but broke down all our institutions, and in some respects suspended the very life of the nation. All regular authority was at an end. Every movement, every action, every order after the fall of Louis Philippe emanated on the spur of the occasion. No one could tell the measure of his rights or his duties, and all waited the meeting of the National Assembly on the 4th of May. It may readily be conceived that it was no light task to carry on business with men to whose lot it had fallen to manage public affairs, in times of such utter confusion. All the men in office were new in authority; their only previous concern with government had been to exhibit their constant opposition. They knew neither the regulations, nor the routine of the administration which had fallen into their hands. It was very difficult if not impossible, to resume any transaction where it had been left; it was almost always necessary to commence anew.

After the meeting of the National Assembly precipitation was added to the hurry of events; public functionaries were constantly changed, and it is easy to understand that when all was commotion, my special busines could proceed but slowly under such an administration.

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plusieurs fois; il est facile de comprendre que je ne pouvais me mouvoir qu'avec lenteur dans cette mobilité de l'administration. Ajoutez enfin que, bien qu'associé depuis plusieurs années a vos travaux, je ne connaissais pas les hommes au près des quels votre nom encore plus que votre mendat, allait m'accrediter.

C'est dans ces conditions que j'ai du continuer ici, sous votre direction, l'œuvre que vous aviez si laborieusement commencée et dont l'intérêt vous conduisait en Amerique. Si les échanges n'ont pas produit de ce côté tout ce que vous en attendiez, le tort en est seulement aux temps et a mon insuffisance. J'ai trouvé partout à toutes les époques une bienveillance pleine d'empressement, un bon sentiment de vos services; une intelligence nette des avantages du système, un désir sincère d'en étendre les applications une appréciation large, et une vive satisfaction du zèle d'ont n'ont pas cessé de se montrer annimés les Gouvernements et les populations des Etats Unis. Il n'est pas un homme politique qui ne m'ait secondé loyalement; pas un ministre qui n'ait repondre a mes sollicitations dans les mesures de ses ressources.

Dans les premiers et partant les plus grands embarras du gouvernement provisoire, le Ministre de l'Instruction publique, Mr. Carnot, m'écrivait sous la date du 30 Mars 1848, "J'ai recu la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire pour m'informer de l'envoi que vous a fait Mr. Vattemare votre beaupère, de vingt et une caisses de livres, documents et cartes offerts à la France par divers états de l'Union Americaine. Je vous prie de vouloir bien transmettre mes remerciments à Mr. Vattemare pour ses honorables efforts afin d'enrichir nos dépôts litteraires, et de m'adresser le plus promptement possible celles de ces caisses qui est destinee au Ministere de l'instruction publique." En même temps Mr. Carnot donnait ordre de me remettre les ouvrages qui devaient être presentés par son département aux Etats Unis.

Le lendemain 31 Je recevais deux lettres d'une teneur à peuprès, semblable, l'úne du Ministre de la Guerre, l'autre (des professeurs) administrateurs du museum d'histoire naturelle.

Une autre lettre m'était adressée par le Ministre de la Marine, le 7 Avril; et le 29 du même mois le Ministre du Commerce confirmait les paroles qui vous avaient été données avant votre départ par Mr. Cunin Gridaine sous le dernier gouvernement.

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It is under such circumstances that I have had to carry on under your direction the work so laboriously commenced by you—your interest in which has carried you to the United States. If the exchanges have not produced on our part what you expected, you will attribute the deficiency to the confusion of the times, and to my inefficiency, rather than to any want of interest in the enterprize. I have met, indeed, everywhere throughout this epoch, an earnest good will, a full comprehension of your services, a clear apprehension of the advantages of your system, and a sincere desire to extend its application, an ample appreciation of the zeal displayed in this matter by the governments and people of the United States. There has been no political man who has not aided me handsomely; no minister who has not responded to my solicitations according to the best of his resources.

During the period of the greatest trouble in the Provisory Government, Mr. Carnot, minister of Public Instruction, wrote to me as follows, under date the 3d March, 1848: "I have received your letter informing me of the shipment by your father-in-law, Mr. Vattemare, to your care of twenty-one cases of books, documents, and maps, the offerings of various governments, cities, and public institutions of the United States to France. Be so kind I pray you, as to transmit to Mr. Vattemare my most unfeigned thanks for his honourable efforts to enrich our stores of knowledge and literature, and send to me as quickly as possible the case intended for my department." At the same time Mr. Carnot gave orders to expedite the shipment of the books given by his department to the United States. The next day I received letters of like tenor and encouragement from the minister of war and from the (professor) administrator of the Museum of Natural History. Other letters were received in April, from the minister of marine and commerce, the latter fully confirming the assurances given you at your departure by Mr. Cunin Gridaine on the part of the late government.

You will please remark that we were then suffering the most painful anticipations of our political position. Between the letter of Mr. Carnot and that of Mr. Bethmot, very important and by no means equivocal movements took place at Paris. And all France was shaken by the first experiment of universal suffrage. Meanwhile you perceive the system of exchange was neither forgotten nor

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Remarquez bien que nous étions alors dans les plus douloureuses préocupations de notre situation politique. Entre la lettre Mr. Carnot et celle de Mr. Bethmont, nous avions eu à Paris divers mouvement d'une nature pour le moins equivoque, et la France entière avait été troublée par la première épreuve du suffrage universel. Cependant, vous le voyez, le système d'échange n'était ni oublié ni méconnu. Je vous dirai tout à l'heure quelle conséquence je tire de ce fait.

Quinze jours après le Ministre du Commerce, le Directeur de l'école des mines, Mr. Dufrenoy, m'écrit à son tour pour me prier de transmettre a l'Union Americaine et à vous les remerciments de l'école *pour les échanges intéressants qu'elle a obtenus.*

Sa lettre est du 13 Mai, elle a contribué à me faire donner par le ministre des travaux publics, une collection complète des *Annales des Mines.*

Je suis l'ordre chronologique en ce moment par ce qu'il fait mieux comprendre l'intérêt qui même au milieu des agitations, s'est toujours attaché au système d'échange. Dans la première lettre que je rencontre est celle du maire de Nantes, en date du 17 Mai, "J'accepte très volontieres cette seconde sèrie d'ouvrages dûs au zèle de Mr. Vattemare nous ferons notre possible pour seconder ses généreux efforts et pour répondre aux besoins litteraires de nos frères de l'union. Vous pouver compter qu'aussitot après la réception de ces livres, je ferai en sorte de vous envoyer en retour quelques ouvrages utiles choisies de préférence parmi les plus ancienne éditions de nos doubles."

En m'envoyant une trantaine de volumes que je me suis empressé de vous transmettre, l'un des professeurs, administrateurs du muséum d'histoire naturelle, Mr. Milne Edwards, m'écrivait le 23 Mai, "J'ai l'honneur de vous adresser quelques livres qui me semblent pouvoir intéresser nos frères transatlantiques. Je vais m'occuper à recueillér les éléments d'une petite collection d'éntomologie pour la société d'histoire naturelle de Boston, des qu'elle sera prête je vous en informerai."

Une fause interprêtation de la décision ministerielle en date du 21 Janvier 1846, má forcé de recourir le 23 Mai, à l'autorité supérieure de Mr. le Directeur Général des douanes qui m'a répondu, le 3 Juin, que l'administration ne ferait jamais difficultés d'appliquer d'office à vos envois le bénéfice de la décision précitée et que par conséquent les

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neglected. I will point out in good time the favorable omens to be drawn from that fact.

Very soon after the above I received a letter from M. Dufrenoy, director of the school of mines, praying me to transmit to the American government and to you the thanks of his institution, for *the very interesting gifts it had received.* On the 13th May, he contributed for our exchanges through the minister of puble works a complete set of the *Annales des mines.* I adhere to the order of time that you may more clearly see the interest felt in your good work, even at moments of intense public excitement. On the 17th May, I received a letter from the mayor of Nantes, in which he says, "I accept very gladly the second series of books, &c., for which we are indebted to Mr. Vattemare; we shall do our utmost to second his generous efforts and to respond to the kindness of our brethren in the United States. You may reckon with confidence that upon the reception of the books on the way to us, I will make it my business to send you in return copies selected in preference from among our duplicates of useful ancient books."

On the 23d of may I received a letter from M. Milne Edwards, one of the professors (administrator) of the Museum of Natural History, in which he says, "I send you thirty volumes for your exchange which I think must be interesting to our transatlantic brethren. I am busy in preparing to send you also the elements of a small *Entomological* collection for the Society of Natural History in Boston of which you will be duly advised when it is ready."

A wrong interpretation of the ministerial decision of 21st January, 1846, compelled me to apply on the 28th May, to the director general of the customs, who replied on the 3d June, stating that there should be no difficulty hereafter in applying the benefit of that regulation to your shipment, and that all packages connected with the exchange would continue to be received free of duty on proper verification. (Ce qué je entend à mervaille.)

So you perceive there is a favourable feeling in every quarter. On the 7th June, the first minister appointed by the executive commission to the department of agriculture and commerce, M. Flocon, forwarded to me a number of works for the United States.

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objets, consacrés aux échanges, continueraient à être reçus francs de tous droits.

Ainsi, vous le voyez, les dispositions sont les mêmes partout. Le 7 Juin, le premier ministre que la commission exécutive ait donné à l'Agriculture et au Commerce, Mr. Flocon, me fait remettre de nombreux ouvrages pour les Etats Unis.

Voici pourtant que nous touchons aux plus mauvais Jours de la révolution, tous les esprits sont en proie aux plus douloureuses préocupations, on attend dans une sorte de stupeur la détestable bataille qui commencera le 23 Juin. Laissez moi vous rappeler la lettre qui vous a été écrite par les professeurs, administrateurs du muséum d'histoire naturelle le 1 Septembre elle vous montrera sous l'empire de quelles anxiétés était la sociétié Française encore après la victoire. Après vous avoir annoncé des lettres qu'ils adressaient aux sociétés Americaines et aux savants en tèmoignage de reconnoissance, Messrs. les professeurs administrateurs ajoutaient; nous aurions moins attendre pour offrire ce témoignage à vous et aux donateurs si notre attention et l'emploi de notre temps n'avaient été d'etournés par des causes que vous comprendrez facilement. Ces mêmes causes n'ont pas permis à la publication des archives de muséum de reprendre encore son cours, de telle sorte que ne pouvous en cet instant repondre à l'envoi des publications Americaines par les nôtres.

Eh! bien malgré cela, le système d'échange ne perdait rièn des sympathies que vous lui aviez acquires dans des temps plus heureux, on n'agissait pas avec la même suite par ce qu'on n'avait plus la même liberté d'esprit; mais on gardait toutes ses pensées; on retenait toutes ses espèrances; et on se réservait de reprendre les projets dont on se sentait contraint d'ajourner l'exécution. Ce que je vous dis ici, vous l'aviez compris en lisant l'exposé très rapide qui précède. Que signifient en effet toutes ces lettres dans leurs empressements, dans leur promesses, dans leur témoignages de gratitude si non que le movement des échanges, pour avoir été quelque peu ralenti de notre côté, ne doit pas, ne peut pas être arrêté pourtant?

J'arrive par cette observation à la conséquence que je vous ferais entrevoir tout à l'heure : C'est que le système d'échange n'est pas seulement dans les idées ; mais aussi dans les besoins de la France ; qu'il est senti par le cœur autant qu'aprécier par la raison ; c'est que

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We now reach the worst days of the revolution; the minds of men were a prey to the most dreadful anticipations; they awaited in a sort of stupor the horrid battle of the 23d of June, and the days following. Permit me here to remind you of the letter addressed to you on the 1st Sept., by the professors (administrators) of the Museum of Natural History, it will recall to you the anxiety which pervaded French society even after the victory. After having announced to you the letters addressed by them to the American *savans* and societies in testimony of their gratitude, they say;—"We should not have so long delayed our acknowledgments to the donors and to you, if our attention and time had not been absorbed by causes you will readily comprehend. The same causes have not permitted the publication of the archives of the museum to resume its course, aud prevent our responding at this moment to the receipt of the American publications by sending our own."

We see then that the system of exchange has not lost the favorable regard it acquired in happier times. If our minds are less active, it is because they are less at liberty; but the idea is retained; hope is not given up; the enterprize is to be resumed of which we now feel compelled to postpone the execution. You will understand, even from the rapid sketch I have given you, the full signification of that earnestness, of those promises and those expressions of gratitude, as furnishing such abundant proof that if the work of exchange has been somewhat slackened, it has not come to an end. This brings me to a conclusion, which I am sure you have foreseen, that the system of exchange has not only entered into the mind, but that it is now felt to be among the wants of France; that it is felt by the heart as fully as it is appreciated by the understanding; that it is accepted by the departments fully as by Paris, by the citizen as fully as by the statesman, and finally, that it depends no longer upon the good will of a minister or the attitude of a government.

I need not refer to later proofs drawn from my voluminous correspondence with various authorities. The times are already more calm, the movements of business are more regular. I have been enabled by acts, to demonstrate the vitality of the system of exchange, by shipping to you, between October, 1848, and January, 1849, nine heavy cases of books, containing nearly eleven hundred volumes. That there is some discord in all this harmony, I must admit. There

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les departements l'acceptent comme Paris, les citoyens comme les hommes d'état ; c'est enfin qu'il ne dépend plus de la bonne volonté d'un ministre ou même de l'attitude d'un gouvernement.

Maintenant je n'insiste plus sur les preuves ultérieurs que je pourrais tirer de ma volumineuse correspondance avec les divers administrations. Les temps sont redevenus plus calmes, le mouvement des affaires plus regulier. C'est par des actes que se démontre la vitalité du système d'échange. D'Octobre 1848 à Janvier 1849, je vous ai envoyé neuf grandes caisses contenans de mille à onze cents volumes.

Qu'il y ait eu quelques dissonances au milieu de l'harmonie générale ; je ne le nierai pas, je pourrais les expliquer par des circonstances exceptionnelles, par des caracteres particuliers, par des erreurs, par des oublis, par des susceptibilités, par des causes fécondes en contretemps, dont la vie la moins laborieuse est toujours embarrasée; mais à quoi bon? C'est dans son ensembles, dans son essence qu'il faut juger une entreprise et non dans ses accidents.

Il sera plus juste et plus vrai de prendre pour l'expression des dispositions générales la lettre que Mr. le Préfet du Departement de la Seine m'afait l'honneur de m'ecrire le 8 Septembre 1848 ; et la raison en est simple : c'est que les idées et les sentiments de cette lettre s'accordant parfaitement avec les faits d'origine et de nature diverses que j'ai eu a vous signaler. Après m'avoir accusé reception de Documents et de livres que je lui avaient transmis par votre ordre au nom des états du Maine, de New-York, de la Virginie, de New-Jersey, de Vermont, de la Pennsylvanie, du Massachusetts, du Maryland, des villes de New-York, de Portland, et de l'école Militaire de West Point, Mr. le Prefet Ajoutait, " Cet envoi joint à ceux qui ont eu lieu précédemment accroit les richesses intellectuelles dont se compose la BIBLIOTHEQUE AMÉRICAINE, que ville de Paris doit à la generosité des Etats Unis. Ces témoignages reciproques de sympathié sont aujourdhui les liens les plus puissants pour unir les peuples. C'est vous dire tout l'intéret que j'attache aux relations que sont établies entre la ville de Paris, et les Etats Unis d'Amérique. Pour continuer ces relations j'ai chargé le Bibliothécaire de la ville de mettre à votre disposition un certain nombre d'ouvrages en échange de ceux dont vous m'avez fait l'envoi, je vous prie de les faire parvenir à Mr. Vat-

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must be exceptions in every successful career, there must be peculiarities of character to encounter, there must be mistakes, forgetfulness, and other causes fruitful in disappointments which none engaged in useful efforts can avoid. Every enterprise must be judged as a whole, and in its essence, and not by its accidents; we need not therefore dwell upon them. It will be more just and more true to furnish as evidence of the general regard in which the undertaking is held, an extract of a letter which the Prefect of the Seine did me the honor to address me on the 8th September, 1848. After having acknowledged the receipt of the books and documents which I had recently transmitted him by your order, in the name of the States of Maine, Virginia, New Jersey, Vermont, Pennsylvania, Maryland, the cities of New-York and Portland, and the military school at West Point, he adds: "This shipment, added to those previously received, increases the intellectual riches of the AMERICAN LIBRARY which the city of Paris owes to the generosity of the American people. These reciprocal evidences of sympathy, form in the present day the most powerful cord by which nations can be bound together; and by this I mean to testify the interest I feel in the relations which are thus established between the city of Paris and the citizens of the United States. That these relations may continue, I have ordered the city librarian to place at your disposal a number of volumes for America, which you will please transmit to Mr. Vattemare, who will, I trust, be the organ by which the city of Paris may express its gratitude to the States and cities of America, which concur so heartily in this great system of interchange."

Later on the 27th December, the chief secretary of the minister of finance uses nearly the same language in forwarding about two hundred volumes for the different States of the Union, and he adds "you will see the interest which the minister of finance takes in the national interchange by his promptness in augmenting and completing within the limits of his resources for that purpose, the collection already transmitted from this department to the United States."

You will remark that if I have spoken of disappointments as having a chilling influence, it was not because they had or would have any unfavorable result upon the system, but because I felt that you were entitled to a candid and complete history of my whole agency during your absence. I annex hereto a catalogue of the books, documents,

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temare qui voudra bien, je l'espère être l'interprête de mes sentiments de reconnaissance envers les etats et les villes de l'Amérique qui concourent avec tant d'empressement au systême d'échange établi avec la ville de Paris."

Plus tard, le 27 Decembre Mr. le Sécrétaire Général du Ministere des Finances exprimait en terme plus bref la même pensée quand, en m'envoyant près de deux cents volumes pour divers états de l'union Américaine, il m'écrivait: "Vous reconnaitrez l'intérêt que le ministre prend à ces echanges internationaux par le soin qu'il apporte à augmenter et à compléter, dans les limites des ressources du ministère, les collections dèjà transmisses aux Etats Unis."

Veuillez remarquer que j'aurais pu ne pas vous parler des quelques contretemps dont j'ai été trop froissé apparemment puis qu'après tout ils ont été sans influence sur les resultats positifs du systême; mais j'ai cru que je ne devais rien vous laisser ignorer de ce qui touche à ma gestion pendant votre absence, il est necessaire que vos informations soient exactes et completes. Je joins à mon rapport la liste des livres et documents envoyés par le France aux Etats Unis dans le cours de l'année 1848, et celle des ouvrages offerts par les Etats Unis a la France. Pendant la même période ces deux piéces donnent la mesure de l'importance qu'ont acquis et qu'acquierent, chaque jour pour ainsi dire, les relations d'échange.

Ici permittez moi quelques explications necessaires, je crois. Dans la liste je n'ai point tenu compte des doubles, par example le Sénat Américaine vous a fait remettre cent exemplais de "*The Constitution of the United States of America;*" je n'ai pas compté cent volumes. De même le Ministre de l'Agriculture et du Commerce ma confie trente exemplaires des *Cours d'Agriculture* de Mr. de Gasparin; cela ne fait pas trente volumes sur mon catalogue. Il ma semble qu'il devait vous suffire de connaitre le nombre des ouvrages que vous avez reçus et transmis. En tout cas vous savez maintenant comment il faut apprécier les resultats constatés par les deux listes. Si je me suis trompé, vous me le direz. Par la même raison quand j'ai eu à inserire des volumes ou des livraisons venant en augmentation ou en complément de vos precedents envois, je me suis borné à le dire simplement, sans entrer nans des détails de chiffres, à mon avis, fort inutiles; mais prenez garde que jai été moins sobre d'indications dans

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&c., sent by France to the United States during the year 1848, and also of those sent by the United States to France during the same period. These measure the importance to which the system of interchange has already attained.

In regard to these catalogues it is but just I should mention that duplicate copies are not included; for instance, the Senate of the United States has given a hundred copies of the Constitution of the United States of America; these are counted only one. So also our minister of agriculture and commerce has presented thirty copies of the *Course of Agriculture* by M. Gasparin, and this makes but one copy in our catalogue. It appeared to me enough to advise you of the number of volumes received and transmitted, but with the catalogue you can at any rate fully appreciate the results. If am wrong, inform me. I have avoided also particularizing in cases where volumes or numbers have been transmitted or received in continuation, fearing to burden you with useless details. You may be sure, however, that I have not failed to furnish with each shipment a proper invoice for the custom house in New-York, fulfilling the requirements of the circular of the Secretary of the Treasury.

The number of books and documents sent by France to the United States, is from 1400 to 1500 volumes; among these were 650 complete works; to these may be added, maps, lithographs, a personification of the republic, a bust in plaster by Gayrard, la caleografia camerale, and medals of the sovereign Pontiff.

The number given by the United States to France is about 1800 volumes, of which 1150 were not included in previovs shipments; besides these, were 12 maps, a head of the Mastodon in plaster, fragments of animal remains, shells, minerals, and seeds.

If I were to establish a commercial balance, I should bring into the account all that you carried away in 1847, and even then it might be said France has received her compensation. But I should badly comprehend the spirit which animates the parties to this system of exchange if I regarded its operations in a mercantile point of view. I can strike no balance in an exchage of good offices and earnest sympathies. I know not how to give the precedence in matters of science to any considerations merely financial. We give with joy; we receive with gratitude, without thinking whether the articles exchanged have any commercial value.

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les listes que j'ai adressées à Mr. le Collecteur des Douanes de New-York, en éxécution de la Circulaire de Mr. le Ministre du trésor Américain.

Dans ces données la liste des livres et documents envoyes par la France aux Etats Unis se compose de 650 volumes d'ouvrages complets; en comprenant les suites et les doubles il faut compter de 1,400 à 1,500 volumes, à quoi il convient d'ajouter des cartes des lithographies, le Buste en plâtre de la Republique par Gayrord, la *Caliographia Camerale*, et les medailles du Souverain Pontife.

La liste des ouvrages, donnés par les Etats Unis à la France, est de 1,150 volumes nouveaux, qui avec les doubles, forment un total d'environs 1,800; plus douze cartes, une tête en plâtre de mastodonte, des fragments d'annimaux, des coquelles, des mineraux et des graines.

Si j'avais a établir une balance commerciale, je devrais faire entrer en compte tous les objets que vous avez emportés en 1847. Ce sont à le bien prendre en effet, retours des présents de la France que j'ai reçus jus qu'à présent; mais je comprendrais mal le caractère philantropique et les tendances civilisatrices du systeme, je ne me conformerais pas à l'esprit dont toutes nos administrations sont annimées, si je laissais pénétrer je ne sais quoi de mercantile dans ces relations toutes de sympathie et de bon vouloir. Dieu merçi, je n'ai entendre mettre en avant ni dans les ministères ni au sein des sociétés scientifiques aucune consideration financière. On donne avec joie et on reçoit avec gratitude, sans songer seulement que les objets d'échange puissent avoir une valeur vénale.

Les institutions et les etablissements qui ont participés à ces relations bienveillantes, sont du côté de la France :

L'Assemblee Nationale,
tous les Ministères,
le Conseil d'état,
la Bibliothéque Nationale,
les Académies des Sciences, et des Sciences Morales et Politiques,
l'Administration des Douanes,
le Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle,
l'Ecole Nationale des Mines,
la Société d'Encouragement pour l'Industrie Nationale,
la Société National et Centrale d'Agriculture,

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The institutions and establishments which have engaged in this beneficent work, are

On the side of France:

The National Assembly,
all the Executive Departments,
the Council of State,
the National Library,
the Academies of Sciences and Moral and Political Sciences,
the Administration of the Custom Houses,
the Museum of Natural History,
the National School of Mines,
the Society of encouragement for the National Industry,
the National and Central Agricultural Society,
the Horticultural Society,
the Geological Society of France,
the Observatory,
the Repository of Arts and Mechanic Inventions (French Patent Office,)
the Cities of Paris, Rouen, Bordeaux, Lyons, Nantes, &c.,

On the side of the United States:

The Congress,
all the Executive Departments,
the Supreme Court of the United States,
the Patent Office,
the National Observatory,
the Coast Survey,
the Bureau of the Topographical Engineers,
the United States Naval School, (Annapolis,)
the National Institute,

The States of Maine,
New Hampshire,
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la Société Géologique de France,
l'Observatoire,
le Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers,
les villes de Paris, de Rouen, de Bordeaux, de Lyons, de Nantes, &c.

Du Côté de l'Union.

Le Congrès,
tous les Ministères,
la Cour Supreme des Etats Unis,
le Bureaux des Patentes,
l'Observatoire,
le Bureaux des Ingénieurs Tòpographique,
l'Ecole Nationale de Marine,
l'Ecole, à Annapolis,
l'Institut Nationale,
les Etats du Maine,
de Vermont,
de Massachusetts,
de Rhode Island,
de Connecticut,
de New-York,
de New-Jersey,
de Delaware,
de la Pennsylvanie,
du Maryland,
de la Virginie,
de la Caroline du Nord,
de la Caroline du Sud,
de la Georgie,
de la Louisiane,
du Mississippi,
du Kentucky,
de l'Ohio,
et du Texas.
Les Villes de Bangor, Portland, } Maine.
Boston,
Lowell,
Springfield,

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New-Jersey,
Pennsylvania,
Delaware,
Maryland,
Virginia,
Ohio,
North Carolina,
South Carolina,
Georgia,
Mississippi,
Louisiana,
Kentucky,
Missouri,
Indiana,
Michigan,
Illinois, and
Texas.

The Cities of Bangor, Augusta, Portland, } Maine.
Boston, Lowell, Springfield, } Massachusetts.
New-York,
Albany,
Philadelphia,
Baltimore,
Washington, D. C.,
Richmond, Virginia,
Raleigh, N. C.,
Richmond, Virgina,

The Colleges and Universities of,
Brunswick, Waterville, } Maine.
Burlington, (Vt.,)
Cambridge, (Mass.,)
Brown, (R. I.,)
Columbia, (city of New-York,)
Georgetown, (D. C.,)

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Les Villes de New-York,
Albany,
Philadelphie,
Baltimore,
Washington, (Capitole,)
Richmond, (Virginie,)
Raleigh, (Caroline du Nord,)
Charleston, (Caroline du Sud,)

Les Colleges et Universities,
de Brunswick, } Maine.
de Waterville, }
Burlington, (Vermont,)
Harvard, Cambridge, (Mass.)
Brown's, (Rhode Island,)
Columbia, (New-York,)
Georgetown, (C. D.)
de la Virginie, (Charlotteville,)
du Michigan, (Ann Arbor,)
de la Caroline du Sud, Columbia,)
de la Caroline du Nord,

Les Sociétés Historiques,
du Maine, à Brunswick,
de Worcester, Massachusetts,
de Massachusetts, Boston,
de New-York, New-York,
de New-Jersey,
du Maryland, Baltimore,
de l'Illinois, Upper Alton,
du Missouri, à St. Louis,
de la Virginie, à Richmond.

Société d'Histoire Naturelle,
de Portland,
Boston,
New-York,
St. Louis.

Société d'Agriculture, &c.,
de l'Etat de New-York, à Albany,
l'Institut d'Albany,
l'Institut Américain, } New-York,
l'Institut Industriel, }

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St. Mary's, (Baltimore,)
Virginia, (Charlotteville,)
South Carolina, (Columbia,)
North Carolina, (Chapel Hill,)

The Historical Societies of the State of,
Maine,
Worcester, Massachusetts,
Boston, do
New-York,
New-Jersey,
Maryland, Baltimore,
Virginia,
Illinois, Upper Alton,
Missouri,

Societies of Natural History of,
Portland,
Boston,
New-York,
St. Louis,

Agricultural Society of the State of New-York,
Albany Institute,
American Institute,
N. Y. Mechanics Institute,
Mercantile Library Associations of Boston and New-York,
National Academy of Design, New-York.

I have thus presented the sum of our labors to the year 1849, my dear friend, and must admit that under my management the system of exchange has not yielded what it would have done under the double advantage of your presence and your influence. You will not however consider this effort sterile, although it has not produced all that might have been legitimately expected. If the times had been more favorable, I should have had better success. I say this without claiming the credit, as you had so admirably prepared the way. Your labors can never be lost, you may be well assured. I can foresee no event which can ever break or even relax the new bonds

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l'Académie Nationale de Dessins, New-York,
Les Sociétés Mercantiles de Boston, et de New-York.

Voila ou nous en sommes en Janvier 1849. Mon cher ami, assurement le systême d'échange n'a pas donné ici tout ce qui lui aurait fait produire la double autorité de votre nom et de vos services. J'espère pourtant qu'il n'a pas été si stérile qu'on ne comprene très bien tous les avantages qu'on peut légitiment s'en promettre si les temps avaient été plus favorable, j'aurais mieux fait, je le dis sans orgueil. Vous m'aviez par vos soins si admirablement préparé le terrain! Vos travaux ne seront pas perdus; soyez en bien assuré. Je ne prevois desormais aucun évènement qui rompre ou seulement retâcher les nouveaux liens dans les quels se sont unies, sous la bienfaisante influence du systême d'échange la France et l'Amérique.

C. MOREAU.

Paris, 23 *Janvier*, 1849.

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which now, under the beneficent influence of the system of international exchange, unite France and the United States.

C. MOREAU.

Paris, January 23, 1849.

NOTE.—As the list of books presented will be included in the next Annual Report of the Trustees of the State Library, they are here omitted. ***

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